



## To the Courteus

Readers.



Like as the Load-stone pointeth at the immoucable poles of Heauen, and will not lye still otherwise: so true generous and noble mindes euer ayme at vertue, and esteeme their noble houses by them halfe stayned, vnlesse in valorous prowesse, wise policies, and kinde courtesies, they equal themselues to, (if not surpasse) the most famous of their Progenitors, yea of all whereof memoriall is extant: by which their worthie endeouors they liue in most great honourable reputation in this world, and after do liue by fame euerlastingly. Among which famous worthies, this *Edward of Lancaster* here mētioned, deserueth not the least praise or prise. And if any will alleage, that in this Poeticall praising of him, there be many fictions (as, *Poetis et pictoribus permagna conceditur licentia*) let such learne to reade these manner of bookes, as *Socrates* wished women to use their looking glasses; namely, faire women, to looke on their glasses, to beware that their good maners may shine as well as their beautie; and ill-

Douce  
P. 126.

See the preface to Warner's "Syrinx" where it is said that  
"Homer's conquest" was stolen from him.



## To the Courteus

Readers.



Like as the Load-stone pointeth at  
the immouable poles of Heauen,  
and will not lye still otherwise : so  
true generous and noble mindes  
euer ayme at vertue, and esteeme  
their noble houses by them halfe  
stayned , vnlesse in valorous pro-  
wesse, wise policies, and kinde courtesies, they equal  
themselues to, (if not surpasse) the most famous of  
their Progenitors , yea of all whereof memoriall is  
extant : by which their worthie endeavors they liue  
in most great honourable reputation in this world,  
and after do liue by fame euermore. Among  
which famous worthies, this *Sagado of Lucretia*  
here mentioned, deserueth not the least praise or prile.  
And if any will alleage, that in this Poeticall praising  
of him, there be many fictions (as, *Poetis et pictoribus  
permagna conceditur licentia*) let such learne to reade  
this manner of bookes, as *Socrates* wished women  
to use their looking glasses ; namely , faire women,  
to looke on their glasses , to beware that their  
good maners may shine as well as their beautie; and  
ill-

ill-fauoured women, to indeuour that their inward vertues might make gracious theyr outward deformities. So let Gentlemen by reading these bookes obserue therein onely those things, the practise whereof may innoble them more and more, and the baser and cowardly sort, here learne onely what may promote them: And thus wishing the ende of all thy reading to bee to attaine true vertue, I wish thee an eternall reward of glorie. Farewell.

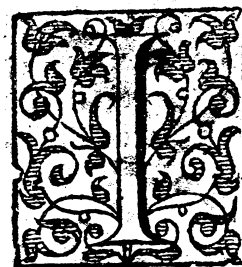
H. R.



# THE MOST DE- lectable and pleasant Hy-

storie, of the Illustrious and most puif-  
sant Prince, *Edward*, Knight of the  
*holie Crosse of Ierusalem.*

The first Chapter.



**T** hath bene sayde (courteous Gentle-  
men) in the first part of this Hystorie,  
that this most famous Prince, our home  
boyn Countryman, hauing finished with  
great solemnitie, his marriage, to the  
good content of himselfe, and more en-  
crease of ioy to his Ladie Valia, ma-  
king small stay, as desirous to see the ho-  
lie place where our Sauour was aliue and dead, giuing the  
Thracian King most honourable thanks for their great inter-  
tainment, & honoꝝ done him and his Princes at their marriage,  
embarked first his Ladie in a small Sattia, which came from  
Marceelas, which of purpose he freighted for Ceneto Vecha,  
committing the care of her, & her seruant Alinda, to the good  
regard of the Frier who married them. Which done, hauing  
well intreated the maister, marriners, and marchants, for  
their more fauour in their voyage, the winde blowing a fresh  
leuant, they weighed their Anchors, set saile, and betooke them-  
selues to the mercies of the raging Willowes.

What sorrowfull parting was betwixne them; For what  
leaving that to their iudgement, which on the like suddennesse,  
depart



## A pleasant Historie of the

depart with their sweete loues. To recount vnto you the tra-  
uaile of our beloued knight to the holy lande, of which hee  
had great care, hauing embarqued his Ladie with her fol-  
lowers, taking a most reuerend farewell of the King, the  
Queene, and the Princesse Argentino, with all the Peeres  
of their Countrey, who both honoured and loued him, hee  
betooke himselfe to trauaile, not vnblamented of all the Court,  
whose loue was so vntied vnto him, that it seemed they spi-  
rits to part with their bodies at his bidding farewell. But as  
all things must haue ende, so had the knight made an ende of  
giving the kinde Adieu to that Countrey: and onely accom-  
panied with his Page, well mounted, hee took his iourney  
first for Peloponnesse, an auncient Cittie of Greece, which  
after many a wearie iourney, passing the dangerous moun-  
taines, and vncouth places inhabited but of rauening and  
most ouglie beastes, he recovered that Cittie of fame, where he  
had of the Viceroy most honourable entertainment, with all  
shewes of loue and kindnesse that hee could require: where  
resting himselfe after his wearie traualles, we leaue him for a  
time, to recount vnto you the successe of the Princesse Vallia,  
in her iourney by sea.

### CHAP. II.

How Argentino consorting with a Knight of her Coun-  
trei to make the Ladie Vallia away, who assailed her at  
Sea, and what chaunced her.



**H**e prince, whose loue Argentino, daugh-  
ter to the Thracian King by all meanes  
sought to obtaine, burned in such iea-  
louie and hate, wanting her desire, that all  
her mind and studie was, by some death  
or other, to quite her of her yuall, the  
louelie Ladie Vallia, thinking thereby  
to gaine the loue of her knight, which we  
more

## Knight of the holy Crosse.

more desired then the worldes goods, and sisting her we-mans  
wit, which was apt inough to manie diuelish deuises, and fin-  
ding none so perfect, which shee durst to practise, flaming with  
revenge to finish her intended euill, bethought her of a knight  
in her fathers Court, whose counter-ance and shewes of kind-  
nesse perswaded her, he intended some singular affection vn-  
to her. Of this knight, her thoughts assured her: wherefore,  
casting from her all regarde of honour, required in such of so  
highed estate: she sent for the knight, commanding her mes-  
senger to haue him vnto her presence. In which, no time was delai-  
ed of either part. For the Messenger no sooner had deliuered the  
princes pleasure, but the knight whose affections it was sent what  
bent to her loue, as one new rise from a dreame, mazed to be-  
hold such visions, as often in sleep appeareth, reuelling himselfe,  
without any questions demanding, hasteneth with such speed  
as he could best vse, to her presence, & hom with great fauour,  
and vntwonted courtesies, she kindly entertained, vsing manie  
pleasing speeches, to inchaunt him to effect her diuelish will.  
Of all which, when he had with such kinde thanks requited  
her, and that shee felt the tole had taken some conceit of her  
lyking, cunningly to see howe this potion would worke, shee  
sayeth:

Siegnur Gualintie, for that I haue noted the weak re-  
ditions of men, and see by experience the small account they  
haue of their words, and faithfull promise, I dare not say what  
I would, wherefore, I am enforced to conceale in secret, that  
which to the death consumeth mee. And therefore withall,  
feigning a womanish kinde of heauinesse, powring forth a  
fewe dissembling teares, like the Crocadill, to effect her inten-  
ded euill, she ceaseth her speech. Gualintie which sawe these  
vnerpected motions, amazed thereat, could not suddenly con-  
ceiue what these motions might intend, yet ayming at her pas-  
sion, which he imagined was some discontent, he saith.

Honoured Princesse, what occasions your grace haue to  
carrie so hard opinions of mens constancie, it were too da-  
ngerous matter for me to question, yet would your good thoughts might  
be

## A pleasant Historie of the

be such of your humble seruant, as I desire it should, and as my will is at your excellent hands to deserue, I doubt not then but my loyaltie should recouer those losse opinions you haue of mens constancie: for performance whereof, in all faythfull dutie, I humbly offer the faith of a knight.

The Princesse Argentino, glad to find the Gentleman in so good a humour, was easily drawne to beleue what he promised. And therefore without standing on fearines of light beleefe, she sayde. Gentle knight, whose worde I hold so firme, as the surest bands, I accept your kinde proffer of courtesie, for which, by that true fayth which honour ought to maintaine, your performance shall bee so requited, as thou shalt euer bee honoured for the same, and thy posteritie. Therefore what I intend, I will not can no longer conceale from thee.

I know (gentle knight) and with that a sigh drawning teares, restrained her dissembling speech, so that she could not vtter what she had to say, yet putting off she proceades: Let it bee knowne to thee, most honoured knight, those abuses offered me in our owne Court, by that disloyall and vniust knight of the holy Crosse, who making shewes of loue vnto mee, manie times courted me with his false intended suites, as well as by his flattering teares of no other intent, as I find now by iust proofe, but to dishonour me and my father: else after so manie protestations, bowes, and solemne oathes taken, his loyall affection to me was such, as no torment nor sorow, nor no trouble whatsoeuer, could remoue from his false and dissembling heart: he would not before my face in presence of my gracious father, and his most noble Pæres, haue conioyned himselfe in marriage with a runnagate Damsell, a begger, a common traveller, and therefore no better then a common courtesan, by his disgrace, so disgracing mee, as the remembraunce thereof can neuer be rooted from my faithfull heart, nor neuer shall my bodie take his naturall sustenance, vntill I be by some meanes or other, reuenged on him and her, that thus most perjured hath shewed himselfe, the most vniustest knight of the world. And that minion, the which doubtlesse by some enchan-

## Knight of the holy Crosse.

ted spellles hath wonne his loue from me, to her liking, which otherwise she could neuer haue done.

This good knight quoth she, my long protestations might wearie thee: but pardon my fault, and imagine how deare I holde thee, that amongst all the knights of my fathers Court, haue made choise of you, to participate with mee of my great heauinesse: for which, if thou canst but set downe a reuenge sufficient for them, but chiefly for that enchaunting sorceresse, and execute it by thine owne hande, I promise my selfe thine euerlastingly, or what other reward so euer thou shalt require. Guahantie, which felt by her speeches, that griefe she endured, was onely a longing to reuenge her of her lones riuall, a torment which stingeth all women to the heart, hoping she would proue as firme as she proffered she would, and that in pleasing her fancie, and reuenging her on the Ladie, he should gaine her loue, for so much by her insinuating speech hee gathered, standing on no more poynts of hauing, but effecting her worde.

He bowed by that honour, which at her princely fathers hands he had receiued, neuer to take one quiet sleepe, vntill hee was for her on the Ladie thoroughly reuenged, and that with such rygour, as shee her selfe could not deuise to ill a torment. And so taking his leaue, humbly kissing her handes, he left her to her accustomed thoughts, speeding to the Lantano of the citie, or as we say the Admirall, who had charge of all the kings Gallies, Foyles, Brigantines, and Frigots, vnto whom, faigning a matter of seruice, hee had for the employement of one chiefe Gallie, he compounded with him for her, and presently had her furnished, with vittailles, and all other needfull things: which done, as one carefull of what he intended, he put to the Seas, and by his owne skill, knowing what course the Ladie kept for her port of Cenic Veche, shaped the like to his maister, rowing that night with all the force his power was able to make. In the morning the Sunne shewing his most glorious and splendent beames, and finding himselfe by his maisters reckoning to be well shotte from his owne coast. After

ter some kinde shewes of loue, and requitall to the master for his seruice and forwardesse in finishing his pretence, omitting the principall cause of following the shippe he sought, hee was offered him, by a Merchant in that companie of whom he so earnestly craved reuenge. The Maister which could well demeane himselfe, knowing the knight to be of great account, and believing what he had sayd, promised his best furtherance for the same. And thitting his course for their more speede, well waiting howe the wind had scanted vpon them, halled ouer for an Iland, where commonly all men bound that way, accustomed to water. In which place by chance unhappily they met them. The Lady and her women being on the shore recreating themselves, and the men busied in getting water, wood, and such wants, aboord, saue the Gallie which rowed mainely in for the place, who shewing their colours, by which they were knowne to bee of Thrace, there was no further doubt, they hauing the Kinges passe, and the league such betwene the nations.

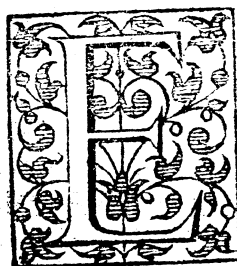
But the knight whose heart was bound to reuenge him on a guiltlesse Ladye, no sooner came to anchoe in the road, but halting the ship, enquired for the Lady, who was then a shore, which hearing, he speedeth vnto them, furnished with twentie of his best men well appoynted, which he thought to bee sufficient to surpris such naked people as hee supposed they were. No sooner was he on land, but with hollow heart, saluting the Frenchmen he met, vnto whom he was well knowne, requiring speeches with the Ladye, he was by those that honoured her for her fathers loue, as also for her noble husband, simply conducted to the place, where the Frier, with all the Merchants were deuoutly on their knees at prayer, vnto whose Prayers this bloodie minded knight, as had cleerke, said Amen, long before it was time, without regard of honour or oath made for defence of Ladies, rushing vpon them, layde violent handes vpon her, and others on the rest of the Gentlewomen, intending to haue carried her away perforce, which the Frenchmen seeing, loth to lose the Ladies good company,

required

required the knight to acquaint them with his intent, in offering them that wrong, whose kindnes refusing, without returning any answer, with his sworde slue him that first spake, which caused the others, with such weapons as they had, to reuenge their companions death, so that betwene them began a most cruell and grievous fight: the Frenchmen fighting in the right of our English Cavaliers Ladies, so valiantly behaved themselves, that they slue the most part of those which came a shore: from whom recouering their weapons, it is not to be thought what exploits was done betwene them. But in the ende all sorting out to the knights ouerthrow, who was in the fight slaine, with all his companie that sided with him in the action. Such as fled was by those who were busily imployed, taking their friends so ill entreated, slain, so that none recovered to carrie tidings how they sped. The Frier in this broile bring a man of peace, taking care of the Ladye and her companie, with drew the from their presence: & searching in feare some place of safetie, from pursuit of the enemies, by chance lighted on the Cell of an Hermit, wherein they shrowded themselves.

The maister in the Gallie, noting their ill successe a shore, layd the ship aboord, rifled her of what she had, and like a most cruell wretch, sunke her in the roade: which done, hoysing his sayles, hauing a winde faue for his port, hee made no longer stay, leauing the Ladye with her companie in a barraine unfrequented Ile, hauing no reliefe at all of any thing, but such rootes and hearbes provided for them by the aged Hermit, whose guesstes they were. Howe against their willes, with this Hermit wee leaue them a season, to attend their deuotions, and a time of deliuerance, the Maister with the Gallie bound for his home, to shewe you what other fortunes befell the knight of the Crosse.

How the Knight of the holie Crosse, after some small stay in *Peloponneses*, betooke him to his trauaile, with his fortunes.



Dward having reposed himselfe in this Citie, thinking the time long until hee sawe the ende of his desired iourney, taking leaue of the *Alicroy*, betooke himselfe to his good fortunes. Two dayes trauailed hee throughtout those desertis of Greece, onely accompanied with his Page, and a Currier which was his guide. The thirde day hee had sight of a mightie conuoy of Cammils, being at least sixe thousand, with their Marchants, which came from India, bound into Egypt. To those gouerneurs and Marchants he sent, requiring them of vittalles to relieue his store: his wine and oyle, by a casuall happe being lost, and no place of refuge neere to relieue it by a farre way: which the Marchants verie kindly graunted, furnishing his wants of what he required, and they could spare. With this companie he continued three daies, very pleasantly passing the time amongst them, of whose companie they were all right glad. The third day drawing towards the evening, as they began to vnfurnish their Cammils, and to set vp their Tents, determining to lodge there all night, their espials descried a companie of armed people, well mounted, which sped them towards their companie, so hardly pursuing the scotws, that they had much ado to escape. Of these people the Marchants had great doubt, and seemed to be verie much troubled in minde at these tidings: which the knight perceiuing, charged them with such comfortable speeches, as he could best utter, and they vnderstand: arming himselfe to withstand their forces, and placing his companies with such weapons as they had to receiue

them,

them, which was scarcely finished, befoze sixe galland Cauldleres, with their stauces charged come neere vnto them, and required the marchants to deliuer those goods they had, for the vles of their king.

The Marchants, reposing themselves of this noble champion, were diuven to a non plus, what to answer, but as men amazed, stood gazing one the other in the face, whose timorousnesse the knight perceiuing, dreadding no colours, mounting himselfe with his staffe charged in the rest, singled himselfe, and putting forwarde, required those gallants to say what their businesse was. The Tartares perceiuing him to bee a knight at Armes, and they souldiours, answered.

Sir, what thou art we know not, but by thy seeming, if wee be not deceiued, thou art a man of Armes, whom we come not in any sort to molest. But for these base fugitiues, which haue wronged our king of his customes, due to be payde of all men passing his Countrey, we come to be satisfied, which we will haue, or leese our dearest liues in gaining thereof: therefore gentle sir, as we haue declared the truth of our coming, take no part with them, if thou louest thine owne welfare. The knight which heard their reasonable answers, could not take any thing spoken in ill part, vntill he had examined the truth of the marchants, and whether there was any such custome due to their king as they required, which on there great oathes they denied, vowing vnto them by all sollemne protestations they could vse, that there were none belonging to the king, but outlawes, and such as liued on the spoyles of trauailers, neither was there euer any custome required of any prince in their time, some of them hauing vied that passage many yeares befoze.

The good knight which was loath to wrong either part, could not tell what to answer, considering the guile of men, which is to make the best of their owne matters, called the cheefest marchants, for in them he had most trust, and examining stricly each particular, of their abode, their cause of trauaile, and their place whether they were bounde, swore them to the truth of all

what

what they had spoken, which done he returned againe vnto the armed outlawes, which attended his answer, saying.

False villaines, and deceitfull wretches, how dare you, being robbers and disturbers of peaceable trauailers, so much to abuse the reuerent name of your king, who is altogether vnacquainted with your trecheries, as to make his authoritie a shelter for your blodie mindes, and spoiling the goodes of honest men, that you haue abused both him and vs, you shall all well know. Therefore if your businesse be no other then I haue notice it is, depart, or you shall know, to your great sorrow, and hearts grieve, that you haue met with him which will not be dared with your high looks.

The Tartares hearing him speake so like himselfe, and with such resolution, could well haue forborne to deale with him, or his companie, yet setting their rest vpon the courage of their companie, which were all well appoynted, and better mounted, defied the knight, who taking all aduantages, seeing their resolution such, encouraging the Marchants, who were all fearefull of losing what they had, began most honourably to assault them whose power was as brauely resisted a long time: in this conflict was most honourable deedes of Armes by the noble knight done, who ever cheared his companies, which were all likely to runne away. So hot and fiercely continued this good knight this assault, that encountering hand to hand the principall leaders, he gaue them such payment, as they could not with all their skill finde fault with their paymaster: such order hee tooke with them, dealing dole to all their costs, that manie of them for feare fled the fildes, betaking them to places where they might beholde the wonderfull deedes of honour done by this most renowned knight, which on all sides they so assailed, as he had no way to get out, but such passage as he made with his welltempered Curcelay, of whose metall he made at that instant sufficient proofe, which those outlawes well felt. And perceyuing their power so weake, to conquer where such a quiber was, resolved no longer to abide in hope, but euery one to make such meanes

as

as he best could for his owne safetie, which the noble knight perceyuing, so hotly pursued, that many Tartares soules hee sent to death: Others without armes, legges, and other limmes, lay weltering in theyr owne blood, that it was lamentable to see, such a Massacre amongst men, if they had bene such, as in men living in Princes obedience they should be.

These Peasants thus flying, and the noble Edward wearied with pursute of them, night being at hande, so as it was not to be discerned a friend from a foe, returning againe vnto his companions Tentcs, in a Valley distant from them a good Myle, hee was there at vnawares set vpon by one of their leaders, which had escaped him in the battaile, who gathering together an hundred of his straggling Consoys, knowing him to be gone that way, encountered him, who being wearie of the toyle taking so lately, had like to haue put him to the foyle, being so at the aduantage assailed. Yet hee whose heart neuer was sene to faynt, arming himselfe to defende, casting his Shelde on his arme, putting himselfe amongst the rowte of them, still crying Lancaster, God and Saint George for Englande, laying so about him, that some heades, some handes, and others in most pittifull wise crying out, hee made way thorow the thickest, so behauing himselfe, that euery one that coulde make shift for one, was willing to giue him roome, and to be gone. Of whome being cleared, breathing himselfe, and receyuing some ayre, hee might espie before him running by the Hill, a Gallant mounted on a Dilke white Courser, which the knight imagined shoulde be the commander of those companies which last assailed him, with whom desirous to acquaint himselfe: hee gaue spurres to his horse, and so earnestly followed this Companion, who little thought of his coming, that ouer-taking him before hee was looked for, hee arrested him so soundlie with his blade of authoritie, as he made him forsake his Horse, to taste the sweetnesse of the



## A pleasant Historie of the

earth, which done he dismounted himselfe, saying: Abide you gallant, and accept a straungers courtesie. I promise thee false felon as thou art, thou dishonourest thy Maister, which made thee a receiuer of custome, to run away when payment is tendered: wherefore seeing there is no more trust in thee, here in your kings name, I discharge thee of this office. And so at one blow taking his head with his Curtelax from his bodie, left his soule to him that had most right.

This latter taske accomplished, breathing himselfe a while, hee mounted his Horse, and pacing easily towardes the Tents, which by the fires light hee had sight of, hee was mette with diuerse of his companie of the Marchants, who being men of more valour then manie of the rest, had put themselves in search of this worthy knight, passing all the way, thoroowe so manie heapes of deade men, and grievous wounded bodyes, that they admired his worthinesse, applauding his valour, and still praising him, giuing him the honour, aboue all men at Armes, whatsoeuer they had either heard of or scene.

Thus passing on in search of their honourable friend, whose companie they were not willing to forgo, sometimes carefull of his welfare, otherwhile commending his halwie deeds of chivalrie, they espied passing downe the hill, a man armed, which they coulde not perfectly discerne, and therefore made a stande, intending to see if there came any more, before they put themselves into daunger. But being percepued of the knight, who stood still on his garde, doubtfull of anie more such vnexpected customers, making readie for the fight. And giuing his Horse such way, as in his swiftest galloppe hee accustomed to make, he cried fiercelie out saint George. At which words the Marchants hauing knowledge of him, dismounted themselves, and kissing his handes, his knees and feet, honozed him for more then a mortall man, which kindnesse, albeist he expected no such reuerent honour, hee tooke thankfully, requiting them with all courtesie, for the care they had of his well doing, so with pleasant discourses they

## Knight of the holy Crosse.

they passe the way untill they came to three tents, where they alighting, tooke him carefully from his horse, and bringing him with all dutie to his lodging puruaide for him, they vnarmed him, washing his brused body, and such small scarres as hee reserued in fight, with most precious Balmes, which done, making him all the frolike cheare and honour they could, they commend him for that night to his rest, causing a sure guard, and heedfull watch to attend him in his tent, and placing faithfull sentinels, dreading the enemies, they tooke themselves to their quiet repose.

## CHAP. IIII.

Howe the Knight of the Crosse, taking leaue of the Marchants and their companie, left them to their iourney.



The day no sooner gaue light, but the Pegroes and slaues provided to load their Camels, which done, the Tents taken downe, and all things ordered to depart, the way lying now for the knight to leaue their companie, when they had well broken they fast, and carolwed to their welfare, providing of al such provision as they had, they presented him with a most curious casket of the rarest Jewels that euer his eyes beheld, beseeching him to accept them at their hands, as interest of their lones, bolwing themselves euer his in all humble seruices. The knight which was as courteous as valiant, seeing their thankfulness such, making choise of some speciall Jewels, required them to value those which hee did fancie, for without paying their prize, hee would accept none. The Marchants which had received the benefit of his valour, and freed from those men of mischief which had despoiled them of all if hee had bene absent, generally besought him to take in worth those they had presented, for that not onely their goods but their liues was his, al-  
C 3 leading

## A pleasant Historie of the

leading that by him they enioyed what they had, and therefore would not be intreated to receive any of them againe, but besought him with all humblenesse, if hee would not receiue them, to bestow them on whom he would.

The knight when he saw their importunate sute, commended their thankfulness, willing them to attribute that good hee had done for the to God, by whose sufferance he had wrought their safetie, and in all places to speake of Englands honour, and their knight aduenturers: which done, taking those Jewels of most esteeme with him, hee commended them to their iourney, who with many loath depart, bade him often times farewell with heauie hearts. This adue taken, we leaue the knight to his aduentures, the Merchants to finish their iourney, vntill fit time serue to recount such other aduentures as hee enterprised, to shew you further of the Lady Valia, Alynde and their honest company, left in the vnfrequented Isle.

### CHAP. V.

Of the great discomfort of the Lady Vallia, who of a conceited feare, fell sicke of a greuous malladie.



**V**U haue heard gentils, how the Ladie Vallia with those Merchants, was in the vnfrequented Island, left without any manner of sustenance or reliefe, other then such wilde rootes, hearbes, and fruites, as naturally had their being in that barraine soyle, through which vnusuall diet, and a conceited feare of more insuing daungers, the Lady fell sicke of an extreame malladie, for whose recouerie no helpe could auail: yet did those religious Hermits and Fryers the best they could. The Merchants and others of the companie, to amende their diet, employed their labours to fish, and to making of gennes, to take soule and such beastes as was thire to be had, enely  
for

## Knight of the holy Crosse.

for her content, but in vaine do they seeke to mitigate her sorowes, or recouer her health, such was her grieue for her Lords absence, and feare of more harsh pursuit of the enemies.

In this perpleyed estate continued this good Lady, past all hope of recouerie, giuen quite ouer to death by all the companie, who ceased not their prayers for her good health. But as in all extremes the fauour of our God is most shewne, so beholde in this, Vallia lying on her hard cabine, slumbring as in a dreame, there appeared vnto her thoughts a beautifull personage, so glorious in his attyre, as she beholding there, of seemed to lacke her senses. This Angell as she supposed, after some pause and standing to behold her, thus said.

**V**ALLIA, surseace thy further dread: thy Lord enioyeth his life, whom once againe thou shalt meete, but haue no knowledge of him for a time: thine nearest allied death hath taken: yet dismay not, for in the seede of thy wombe shalt thou be made glorious. My message is done: thine intercessions are hard, and thy deliery from this place as it hand.

This said, clapping his wings, as to her seemed, hee left the caue, and departed, wherewith Vallia, as one awaked from a trance, seeming as one of her wits to be bereft, cried mainely out for helpe, whose sodaine motions caused them all to feare her death was at hand: yet comforted they her all they might with such speech & words of heauely pleasures as in such times is comenient to be vsed, so long continuing their talke, that in the end grasping her hand about the neck of her trusty Alinda: she raised her selfe in her bed, and fetching a deep sigh, said. Reuerent father Hermit, you patron of learning, and others my god friendes, this night haue I scene my sauiour face to face, who by his diuine prouidence hath vouchsafed to shew him, selfe vnto me his sinfull handmaide, by whom I am assured of my Lords prosperitie, and all our freedoms from this place.

The Hermit and the rest hearing these speeches proceed from her,

her imagined the lightnesse of her head had moued these fantasies, and had the more doubt of her good health, and standing as men amazed, gazing one the other in the face, were as men senselesse, whose hard beleefe of her wordes vttered, caused her thus replie. Fathers and my good friends, let it not seeme incredible what I haue sayde, but attend the euent, which ensuing to our comforts as we expect, giue the honour to him, by whose prouidence we are comforted. This said, bidding them good night, she fell into a most swete sleape, in which she continued till the morning was farre spent. Before which time the company which vsually went about their vnder taken labours for getting their victuals, from the tops of the mountaines descried a small sayle at sea, which they viewed, earnestly waiting by a compasse they had, which way she bare: but so long gazed they, that the gale blowing hie, and sitting their cause, which were bounde thither for water, hauing spent their store at sea, through such continuall foule weather which they indured, in such manner, that they durst cease no land for feare of daunger. They descried their hull, which scene, well was hee that might make most haste with the first tydings, thinking the time long vntill they came to the caue, where being nere speechlesse with the hast they made, a sodaine feare possessed all the companie, specially Alinda, whose heart was at her heele vntill shee heard them deliuer the cause of their speedie coming, which knowne, God was glorified in generall. And Villia as one ouer ioyed at this sodaine newes, might not by any intreatie be held longer in her bed, but calling for her apparrell, attired her selfe with such courage, as if shee had felt no græfe, which done, resting her weake body on the arme of her Alinda, shee left the desolate caue, to take the comfort of the swete ayre abroade, and to see the euent of those blessed tydings she hoped of.

By this time was the ship ancozed, and the Harriners making haste for water, whereof they had great neede, hoysed their boate, and with their vessels came a shore, where they were heartily welcommed of those poore distressed people,

who enquired diligently from whence they were, and what occasion droue them to that coast. Sye quoth the boatswaine, being a man of some good demeanour, we are of Sicilia, an Island belonging to the Spanissh king, bound by our charty partie, for the coast of Egypt, and meeting as poore sea men oft doe, with foule weather, the winds raiging in such maner, our store of wine being spent, & water scarce, our coming is hither for that releefe. Thus sir, quoth he, as I haue acquainted you with our fortunes, refuse not to let vs knowe what you are, which haue your abode in a place so vnfrequented as this, where I haue before this time bin oft, but neuer saw or heard any y liued here.

Friend quoth the Marchant, we are here a great many poore distressed soules, which by violence of an enemy that vnawares assailed vs on the shore, were giuen for safegard of this Lady to stand on our defence, where by fortune and the assistance of God, we vanquished the proude daring enemies, which were on land with vs: which when his companions perceiued that kept aboard his gally, they first rising our ship, taking what they best liked, and afterwards leauing vs without any releefe, sauing that apparrell on our backs, sunke our ship, and left vs to our fortunes, since which time we neuer had sight of any man or shippe, whereof we had any hope of comfort, before this time. Therefore if God haue ordained you for our good, and that as Christians you pittie our distresses, helpe this Lady with vs her friendes, to any place inhabited by Christians, your payment shall be large, and your charitable dedde rewarded both of God and men.

The Boatswayne being a man as full of pitte as courage, hearing this lamentable discourse, and seeing the weake estate of the Lady, was moued with remorse of their good, promising his best furtherance for their comforts: so shipping one hogthead of water for the companie, hasteth aboard, taking with him the fryer and two Marchants, whose wordes wrought such effect with the master and the rest, that a conclusion was passe for their passage, and the master comming a shore, brought with him for the Ladies releefe, such



## A pleasant Historie of the

bread, succor, and other provision as he had, which came in good time, and not before it was long looked for, which was as thankfully received. The master and his company having a care to bee at sea, applyed all their people to labour, so that within two dayes they were well provided with water, ready to set saile.

### CHAP. VI.

How Vallia and the rest taking leaue of their good host the Hermit, was shipped from thence, with their fortunes.



Such was the industrie of the Master, that long time was not spent before all needful things were provided, when having a pleasing gale for their course, warning was given to the passengers to be readie, for whom they made no long stay, but their leaue taken of the old Hermit, they commend him in their prayers to God, and themselues to such successe as they expected.

All things fitted and the passengers aboard, the ancors weyed, an nimble boy pare with his knife, gaue way to the sayles, which tryed to good passe, a maine they cutte the waues, and ioyful of this happines, as to be endowd with great treasure, two daies & more they enioyed of quiet and calm content, without any annoyance either of wether or enemies: the third morning beeing ouercast and gloomie, a Boy looking out for dangers, espied vnder the edge of an Iland, two stout Gallies, who having sight of the Shippe, made towarde them with all speede they could, of which beeing aduertised, a generall feare possessed all their hearts, especially the Ladie, who having so lately felt the force and extremitie of the merciless foe, was doubtfull of the like. But how timorous soeuer women in their kinde be, it relecth for men in extremities to shew themselves. The master being a man of courage, called

all

## Knight of the holy Crosse.

all the companie, as well strangers as others, and vnto them he sayth. Friendses all and companions, wee haue now small time to stande on discourses, seeing our enemies are at hand: if enemies they be, as it is most likely, betwixt they gette the best, and wee by our cowardize subiect our selues vnto them, I doubt not but you all haue heard what miserie wee shall endure, for Turkes they are, that is without all doubt: therefore like men shewe your selues and arme you with courage and hope of victorie, for howsoeuer death cannot bee so bitter as the torments they will inflict on you, if they preuaile. Therefore as many as will take parte with mee, holde vp your heades, and provide for your safetie.

These wordes were no soner deliuered from the Master, but you might see with what vnited hearts euerie man gaue his consent to fight it out, and standing on no tearmes, euerie man provided him such weapons as hee coulde best vse, lacing close theyr mettinges, and making ready theyr fire workes to annoy them: whilst euerie man was thus busied, Vallia whome feare hadde neare ouerwhelmed, was comforted by her friendly trust Alinda, who chearing her weake spirits, said. Quant your feare Madam, cast heauiness aside, and let not these sullen thoughts cumber you, wee know the worst, death is to bee preferred before a miserable life. Therefore take courage, shewe your selfe to bee your selfe, and remember your noble Lorde, who were hee present, would dare all those curs to behold his face. Though we be women lets do our best, or at least, if your heart quaille, giue me leaue, for before you die some of them shall abie your life, or both my heart, power, and weapon shall faile me.

Vallia, which saue her woman in this humour, could not forbear to smile, howe heauie soeuer her heart was, yet setting a good face on the matter, sayde, well Alinda well, your great shewes will proue I feare but a bolde cowards bragge, as much may they do that say little, as they that fill the ayre with threating clamours, whatsoeuer thy thoughts are of my

## A pleasant Historie of the

feare, if my helpe neede, whereunto I trust it will neuer come, Alinda shall see Vallia hath Raynolds heart, though not his apparrell.

Whilſt they were thus pleasantly teſſing, to the good encouraging of all the companie, whole care was moſt for them, the Gallies comming vp, hailed them, commanding them to ſtrike, and the maiſter with the Marchants to come aboard, or without reſiſtance to ſuffer them enter. The Marchants of France, paſſengers hearing theſe peremptory ſpeeches, answered Proud and unhallowed cures, what think ye of vs, to be men or babes, that you dare vs ſo with theſe ſpeeches, knowe that beſore thou haue in poſſeſſion the leaſt haire of any of our heades, thou ſhalt deereſly abyee them, therefore amaine, amaine, and therewithall hauing his peece reade, fired the ſame, aiming at the poſe, wherewith ſhooting at randen, by great fortune killed the Admirall of the Gallies, wrich done, a moſt ſharp & bloudy fight began, and with great courage on the Chriſtians parte maintayned, who with their ordinance ſlew their ſlaues and companies like Bees: which diſadvantage the Turks ſeeing and feeling, fighting ſo farre off, bored them one on the one ſide, the other on the other: at this onſet beganne the Spaniards to quaille, which were cheered to the fight by their paſſengers, who ſeeing theſe valour, was encouraged to ſticke to that which elſe they had given over, eſpecially ſeeing and noting how manly and without feare, the Lady Vallia and her Alinda deuotred themſelues, who ſpying their times to worke on the aduantage, ſeeing their chaines full with Turks, ready to enter theſe ſhip, from a poſt with their ſhorſe pikes, ſpoyled many, thruſting them ouer board, and killing diuers, and ſpreading them from that labour, two naked Turks hauing ſaſined an anchoz at their Shippes rother, thinking to enter in theſe ſearne parties, by Vallia and Alinda were ſo plyed with Pottes of Powder fired, Pikes of wilde fire, and ſuch other, as theſe whole companie giuing ouer the fight, there was very fewe or none, eyther Turks or Chriſtian ſlaues which

## Knight of the holy Croſſe.

which could ſtand ſo pitifully were they ſpoyled, burned, and maſſacred, whereby they enforced them to yeeld themſelues vnto the Chriſtians mercies, of whom they took ſmall pittie: but drenching them all in the ſea they founde aliv, ſunke one of the Gallies, and taking all the Chriſtians into the other that were able to ſerue, freed them from their chaines, and cauſed the wounded to be dzeſt, leſt the Gally in poſſeſſion that night of a Marchant of Marceelas: which done, and all things quietly ended, the Frier which ſawe how valiantly the Ladie and Alinda employed their forces, highly commended them for their forwardneſſe in this action, which made Alinda in teaſting maner thus to ſay. That your Ladyſhip is become ſo valiant on the ſudden, I do not greatly maruell, conſidering the fellowſhip you haue ſo lately with ſo honourable a knight, whole courage hath animated you to this hardineſſe: if the huſband bee famous for his worth and honour gained in all places, no doubt but France and Spaine, and Italis, ſhall ſound the Ladie Vallia her high deſerued commendations, whom, if God bleſſe with increaſe of children, are likelie to proue men of high account in the worlde, if they haue the fathers courages, or the mothers ſtomackes which is paſſed by with an Engliſh heart. Vallia hearing her ſpoken to leaſt thus broad, cut off her ſpeech thus.

Alinda, what motions are theſe, that on ſuch ſudden cauſeth your ſtrings to iarre ſo farre beyond your cuſtome, ſuch manner of leaſts I brooke not, though louing thee, I ſtaine my ſelfe at this time to digeſt them. In deliuering of which ſpeech, Alinda perceiuing by her vnwonted ſcolding of her brother, that ſhe was ſomewhat diſcontent at her ſpeech, forbore her further answers for that time. To put her from her melancholie, the maſter of the ſhip ſold her ſuch viands as they had was readie, if ſhe pleaſes to ſup: whereunto ſhe was eaſily entreated, hauing gotten her a ſtomacke with her long faſting, and hard toyle in the fight. Their diſcourſes at table of each ſeueral accident happening, I omit, to let you knowe their enſuing actions with their ſucceſſe.

CHAP. VII.

How the Spaniards deliuered the Gally vnto the French Marchants, and Mariners, with fuch vittailles as they needed, who taking with them the Lady Vallia, left them.



**L**he Lady with her friends discoursed at supper of the dangers past, leaving nothing of worth by any one particular remembred, done in that action, a motion was made, that the Gally with the flanes able to laboz, and vittails necessary should be giuen vnto her to bring her to her desired port, vnto which the Spaniards to requite the good done them by her whole companie, granted very willingly, for performance of which, order was presently take, and each thing usefully puruaide to the ladies good content. In the morning early by break of the day, the master hauing the wind faire, was loath to make longer stay then need, haled the gally, willing them to com nere the ship, and vnto the marchant revealed their intent, and what the whole companie had agreed vpon, which was verie well accepted of the French men, who rendred him many thanks for his fauour, for dispatch of them both: such hast was made as possible they might, which was suddenly done to the general, reioicing of these poore captiues who by this overthow of the Turks, were made free. The ladie aboard, taking their solempne farewell each of other, they shaped each one there seuerall course best fitting their turne. Vallia frolike with her companie, & holy father, vnto whom with a verie thankfull mind vnto her maker for all the successe she had received from him, and accomplishing her hearts desire, omitted nothing worthy the recounting, to the great admiration of all the hearers, especially the frier, whose charge she was, who calling to mind the fauor of God, in revealing to her by vision their time of sudden departure, thought her some holy & chosen woman, & ever after in all his Masses & other ceremoniall rites according

according to the order of their church and blind deuotion, extolled the ladie farre beyond her expectation. Thus falling fro one discourse to another, to driue the time away: after they had spent one whole weeke at sea, they might discover & mountains near the old city Ceueta uecha, or old Rome, so called, & had al things so fauourable to their desire, that long before night they recovered the road, where comming to anker, was presently hoarded by the officers of the citie, who had great feare they had bin Turks at their first comming in: but hauing some conference with the frier, was certified of all their proceedings, leaving nothing vnspoken which might gaine them fame, and the ladie honour, wherfore the officers hauing knowledge, holding that truth which the frier had spoken, whilest they frolicke with the ladie, & her companie, sent his guidelowe a shoze with one of his confederates, charging him to deliuer to the abbot & his friers what he heard, taking like order for puruaying her of lodging in the old palace of the Emperour, which he caused to be furnished with all needfull furniture, as the shortnesse of time would permit them, with all prouision that was there to be had.

The officer who was a ioyfull man of these tidings to be the messenger, hasteneth all he might, being with child with those newes, & longing to be deliuered, wherfore as soone as he recovered the shoze, staith not vntill he came vnto the lord abbot, vnto whom he forgot nothing of his charge, which the old man hearing, blessing & crossing himself, wonderously perplexed with the strangenes of his tale deliuered, he first called his couent together in their church, wher they praised God for them, and their safetie, and so putting on all their best masking attire, went in procession to the sea side, to receiue her a shoze, where they carried with them the speciallest reliicks they had.

The captaine of the towne with his band, in solempne order marching in like maner, and all the bells ringing for ioy, to welcome the holy Ladie. After all these the gouernors and counsell of the towne in their order, making such a beautifull shewe as had not bene on such a sudden euer seene before.

All things ordered at point deuice, boats were sent out so richly furnished

## A pleasant Historie of the

furnished with Tapistrie, Carpets, and curious Cushions, as was a wonder to see, the thore standing full with all the people in the Towne.

The men appoynted to bring her a thore, being noble men, the one a gouernour in the towne, the other a Cardinall, who bowding the Gally, on their knees solemnly kissed her handes and feet, doing her as much honour as if our Ladie had bin present, which she tooke small pleasure to haue, which done, and a generall welcome to the whole companie, the gouernour entreated her to take the comfort of the thore, to which small per- swasions serued, at her going to the boat, well was hee that might set hand to helpe, he thought himselfe most happiest, & could come nearest her, such fopperie was not vsed aboord, but much more on the thore, where was ducking on all sides, crou- ching and kneeling, with such singing, drumming & gunning, that y<sup>e</sup> Echo thereof was enough to make a man sicke. The welcome giuen, this noble Ladie might not be suffered to touch the earth with her feet. But at her landing place, was spred a most sumptuous cloath of estate, and a Chaire thereon to rest her, where when she had a while reposed her selfe, and euery one of account kissed her feet and hands, foure comman- ders, two Priests, and two Captains, carried her in the chaire, ouer whom was borne by the Abbot, the Cardinall, and two noble men, amost rich Canapie. So marched shee vntill they came vnto the Abbey, where preparation was made for her lodging, where the Procession ending, the Cardinall and Abbot tooke leaue of the gouerneurs of the towne, bidding them good night.

But they which had provided the Emperours pallace, and bene at great charge for her viands, toke in ill part, that anie such unkindnesse should be offered them, and in quiet maner besought them to grant them leaue to haue the guard of her, which they so scornefully answered, that the Cardinall in spea- king as his cholericke nature accustomed, with his hande had like to haue giuen the Gouernour a blowe on the face, which unkindnesse the souldiours disdaining, by violence sought to

## Knight of the holy Crosse.

carrie the Ladie, in such maner, and with such harsh behauiour on both sides, that the Cardinall, Abbot, the Crosse, Banners, and all were layd lowe on the earth, and such a hurley burley begunne, as was neuer seene the like, striving for the Ladies entertainment, which grieved the good Ladie, which was then to be ruled by those of greatest power, the souldiers and com- manders of the Towne, with whom she was best pleased, for that her loue and honourable Lord, was a man of Armes and honour.

This discourtesie the Cardinall and his company toke in such ill part, that they cursed all the Towne, and Towne in- habitants, suspending them from the holy Church for euer. But they whose care was small at that time, for any their doings cared but little. The Lady they cheared, who wanted nothing that was fit for her honour and welfare, where let her repose her selfe a time with iollitie, the Fryers sweating in their own grease, and the Cardinall and Abbot chasing like men frantike, to shewe you what after happened.

## CHAP. VIII.

How the Gouernour aduertised the Emperour, of the arri- uall of the Ladie *Vallia*, and what after chaunced her.



The boyle ended, a great sturre was in all the Religious houses, amongst them- selves, debating of the wrong offered by the people of the Towne, the Church doores were all sealed vp, and no man vpon paine of their curse to enter them.

This was considered of the Gouer- nours, who toke aduise in the matter, knowing the authoritie they haue in all places where their re- ligion taketh place. Besought the Ladie for her Letters of in- nouer to the Emperour, to the end this began enmitie, might be appeased, vnto which she was easily perswaded, though for against the minde of her Protector the Fryer.

The Ladies Letters signed, which imported her message from the knight of the holy Crosse, and the messenger appointed, there was no detracting of time, but with all speed that Hoyle could make, he applied his businesse, until he came unto Rome, where comming before the Emperour, he deliuered his Letters, which were very welcome, taking great pleasure in the comming of the Lady into those confines, being Lady and wife unto the knight which of all men living he holde in most regard.

Whilist the Emperour was discoursing with the Messenger, a Cardinall came to summon him before the presence of the Pope, presently to appeare, to answer those wronges done by his Gouvernours to the Church and Patrons thereof, of all which, the Cardinall had signified his holinesse, which was held a matter most hainous.

The Cardinall gone, the Emperour called againe for the Messenger, and with him questioned of all those troubles begunne, whereof he did aduertise him in each particular, and withall, deliuered the Gouvernours Letters, which he had written to that ende, doubting such a chaunce would happen, and that the Cardinall would seeke reuenge, with all extremitie he could. When the Emperour was aduertised hercof, making no stay, he came before the Pope, unto whom as the maner was, doing reuerence, he requireth the cause of his speedie sending for him.

The Pope whose fury was not yet ouerpass, incensed to more choler by perswasions of the rest, who hung al in a firing, doubting least giuing heed to these, it might incurre a farther damage vnto them all, in their seuerall government, began in loude and most harsh termes to reuile the Emperour, calling him hereticke, and subborner of hereticke, uttering against him speech of most dishonour and disgrace. All which the Emperour like himselfe, as he was a most graue and well gouerned Magistrate, knowing by his owne perfections, other mens humors, forbore to answer what he in choller offered, but mildly leauing his presence returned to his Pallace, very high-

ly discontent, yet gouerning his passions, betaking himselfe to his studie, he gan with great wisdom to consider of each accident, and finding his Gouvernours offence to touch his reputation, albeit he had done all for his honour and credit, yet the Church carrying a hand ouer all of what estate so euer, knowing by experience their insolencie, thought it best to reconcile himselfe without farther mouing of trouble, and thereon reseluing sent presently for the Cardinall his Confessor, vnto whom he saith, what heavinesse and grieve he conceiue at those unkinde dealings of his Gouvernours against his holinesse, the Church, and state thereof, beseeching him, of those loues he alwayes proffered vnto him, to finde some meane to accord his holinesse and him, so that a league and peace being obtained, all wrongs might be forgotten, and his Townes men restored to the Church againe. All which his Confessor promised most faithfully to follow. And so taking leaue of the Emperour, speddeth him to his holinesse presence, where forgetting nothing that he had promised, omitting nothing for his better successe, declareth at large the heavinesse of the Emperour, for his abuse offered against his will and knowledge, so earnestly applyeth his sute vnto the Pope and his honorable friends, that though with much adoe, yet at last an attonement was graunted, but the Emperour and the Towne fined at ten thousand Flozence for the offence: wheron concluded, a peace was made, and vntie betwene them, and they all restored to the Church.

This byatule ended, the Emperour not forgetting his friends Lady, bent his studies for her royall entertainment, for which taking order with all his Officers, he appointed a day to set forward to her place of abode. Till which time, we leaue them to recount vnto you the Brightes troubles, and what chaunceth him in his trauailes.



## CHAP. IX.

How the Knight of the holy Crosse, by the trechery of his guide, was robbed of his Horse and Armour, and what happened.



After the departure of the Knight with the Marchants, on the Mountaines of the Tartars, coming to a place called Sylo, where he was to imbarque himselfe, he discharged his guide, and sayled with other company to Misath, where being landed, presented himselfe with the rest of the passengers to the Bashaw, who came in person to see the passengers bounde for Jerusalem. This Bashaw being of a proud and insolent condition, expected great reuerence; which of the common company was giuen him. But our Cawlier scorning such base fashions, could not stoupe in such maner, wherefore the Bashaw began in vile speech to taunt him, which he better vnderstanding then the rest, though he had not his language so perfit, in Italian answered his speeches, whereat great exceptions were taken, yet by reason of his safeconduit, he durst no quarrell or make stay of him, but amongst the rest, without fauour, had vittailles and a guide: and so mounting his horse departed, leauing the company to the common guard of the souldiers, as is the custome.

The Bashaw whom spite had moued to choller against the Knight, vnderstanding he lest the ordinary passage, intended to cry quittance with him, by trechery, or as he best might, to fulfill his diuellish munde: And that night armed a hundred of his best Janinaries, whom he hyred to slay him, appoynting them the way to follow the Knight, whom they very hardly pursued, in such maner halssing, that they had sight of him, following by easie pace a long time, till night growing vpon them, they caused a naked Horse to overtake him, and to keepe him company, appoynting him to take such order with his guide,

guide, that where he should rest, to robbe him both of horse and armour: And that done, to giue the in notice, whome he should be sure to finde by their seuerall fyers, which they would of purpose make. With this lesson the naked rogue left them. And ouertaking the Knight, fell in iesting with his guide, with whom he vsed such pleasaunt behaviour, that it greatly delighted the Knight, who made much of him, and willed him to stay by the Fountaine where he pitched his Tent, imparting with him such vittailles as he had: When the Knight had well refreshed himselfe, and had scene his Horse well meated with barley which he brought for him, giuing straight charge to the Horse his guide, to maintaine the fyer which vsually they kept, for defence of the Lyons and wilde beasts keeping the desarts, he took him to rest.

The Horse hauing now opportunitie to worke his companion, taking him from the Tent, beganne so to worke with him, that with shewes of kindnesse being his countrey-man, lone of the souldiers where he liued, and hope of great reward, he wonne him to effect whatsoeuer he desired: which done, taking the opportunitie offered, he aduentured first to enter the Tent, and by seuerall peeces took the Armour, his shield being vnder his head he durst not touch, and his sword with an arming lace fastened to his arme, being well as he thought with this, they took each of them a Horse, and leauing both the knight and his Page to walke on foote, left them thus in their sounde sleepe.

The trayterous villaines hauing sped of their businesse, ceased not passing from fyer to fyer, until they had giuen notice to all the souldiers what they had done, who gathering themselves together, set on to find the Tent whither they were conducted by the guide and the other slave, his companion in this practise. But he that in many perilles had deliuered our braue and endaunted Knight, preserueth him still for his Countries honour, as you shall note.

For the villaines gone, and heavy slumber oppressing him, he fell into a sound sleep, in which he dreamed, and in his dream

seemed perfittly to see an heall of men, enuiron a felwe peaceable trauailers, which he of mere deuotion sought to rescue: in which dreame awaking, and bustling himselfe, as to helpe those distressed, sought for his armour, being neither fast a sleape nor thoroughly awaked: which ensuing, he calleth his Page, and both went to seeke their horses which were likewise gone, leauing them none but the Ass and Mule which carrieth theyr vittailles.

This chaunce happening, he could not imagine what to do, nor where to seeke those miscreants which so had robbed him, yet searcheth he here and there, crying and calling for them, which were too farre off to heare him: So long they followed seeking those villaines, that they might hear the noyse of many horses, which trouping made great speede towards the place where they kept.

Attentiuely listned the Knight, to note if he could here any voyce, and busily bethought him what was best to do in this extreme, beleuing verily that he was betrayed yet making no semblant thereof, caused the Page to bring from out his tent a case of Pistolles with his powder and shotte, which commonly the Page carryed, with those he charged the boye, if occasion serued, to do his best seruice, and to giue him that helpe he could, which faithfully he promised to accomplish.

Scarcely had they determined what to do, but they might discry the two Horses gallopping on their horses, which by their white Algonines they perfittly did knowe, leading the others which closely followed them, making all the haste they could.

This sight made him verily beleue that those villaines had betrayed him, and that those Horsemen were they which intended to worke him mischief, for whome hee purposed to provide, seeking his best aduantage to continue the fighte, Cheltering himselfe close to a thubbed Olive Tree, which grew thereby, distaunt from his Tent a furlong or thereabout, by which they must needs passe that came to seeke him.

The

The Horses approaching, making readie to take them first, which were the Authours of this stratageme, the Page with a Pistolle killed the one, and the other which was his guide, with his Curtilex hee unhorsed, doing him no other harme. But perceiuing who hee was, thought to saue him aliuie, to bee a guide for him, if hee escaped out of those Mountaines, so binding him hande and foote, hee put a gagge in his mouth, and cast him from him: which done, making readie to entertaine the rest, hee spæet to his chesen Tree: where long hee had not stayed, but the others gallopping came as swiftly as they could, where finding the two Horses without men, made them stande, but to their cost, for his Pistolles being provided, by them the foremost two lost their lines. Which done, hee armed himselfe to defence, euer annoying them as hee saue his most aduantage, whilest the Page with his Pistolles did his part, paying surely all those that hee made offer to hitte. A hardie boye and daungerous fight entured this Noble English Knight, which for all their great multitudes was not dismayed at all, but in the midst of his distresse, to the encouragement of his poore Page, cryed still Lancaster, Saint George for England, neuer making any shewe of discouragement, albeit his woundes were many, which bled moste grauously, yet stode hee, to the great succour of them all, brauely and ioyfully encouraging himselfe with hope of theyr shamefull downefalles. In which ayded by him whome hee zealously serued, hee brought to confusion, sometimes assailing, sometimes defending, as hee best could finde opportunitie, and greatest aduantage, euer speeding one or other, so that hee neuer strooke in vaine.

Continuing his dole with such a kinde of deuotion, that the better part of their Army being slaine, and the moste of the rest lying grouelling for life, amongst them, hee spyed one of the very principallest hauing on his Armour,

who

who being none of the beft men, feeing the others haue fuch ill fucceffe, was flying as faft as he could, but the knight percei- uing him, got him to horfe, and fo earnestly folloved him, that to his great coft he ouertooke him, in ill time, as he might well witneffe: fo; with fuch authoritis he arrefted this run-away, that he had no leifure to afke at whole fute, but being an execu- tion, paloned his life fo; fatisfaction.

This companion hauing his passport to the great diuell, figned and fealed by the hand of a noble Englifh knight, he ar- med him, and poaffing backe amongst the reft, payde them moze then he owed, by many a Turkes life.

By this time the day gaue him faire light, fo that he might well fee his woake, toherfoze fuch as could make shift fo; them- felues, feeing the ill fucceffe their fellowes had, flood not on any moze poynts of manhood then was fit they fould, but without taking leaue, made what hafte they could fo; their fafetie.

The noble Edward feeing his companions gone, and none left able to make any refiftance, went fo furray them, which were all goodly fellowes, and well appointed after their fashi- on, amongst which, he found one Spanyard, who was newly taken in Turky, and turnde Turke: this fellowe had fome knowledge of y knight, and was abiding in Gebraltare, when by the Turkes he was betrayed to the Gouvernour. And in his company two Cafterlings which had bene men of value and good worth, who hearing the Spanyard craue fo; pittie at his handes, hauing fome hope to efcape with life, cryed out vnto him, befecching him to heare them fpeake, who being of kinde and noble condition, commanded them to fay what they wold he would heare them.

This comfort obtained, the Cafterling bewayling their ill fortunes, which through the crueltie of the Turkes, were com- peld to forfake their Sauour, allured thereunto oft by threat- ning, and menaced with greuous torments, and oft with pro- mife of large poffeffions, fo that in the ende to their great for- row and moze fhame of themfelues, they repented their folly and great finne committed againft God, befecching the knight

to haue mercie vpon them, who being now in his hand, might either deliuer them by death from that King of confcience, which continually gaubed as the hungry Wyger on his prey, or graunting them life, accept th: m as his flauies, fo that they might thozow a repentant minde, obtaine the fauour of God, whom fo highly they had offended.

With this pittifull fuit, the knight whole heart was alwaies inclined to mercie (moued with remorse of faving their foules, whom none but he that gaue them life could pardon) fo; gaue them th: death, and the Spanyard alfo, and with the helpe of the Page, carried them vnto his lodging, where he played the Surgeon, binding and drefling they woundes: which done, with fuch Balmes and ointments of rare worth, hee trimmed his owne grēfes, giuing God thanks fo; his fafetie in thofe extreames, and freeing him from thofe daungers, fo; the ease and recure of al which, hee made his ftay there, fome thre or foure dayes, releafing the Horfe which lay bound, who ferued to drefle they horfes, on whose examination, and the Caster- lings, he had knowledge, that his intended euill proceeded from the Washaw, who hyed the Zeneraries of purpose to flay him, fo; whom God continually fought.

## CHAP. X.

How the Knight of the Crosse-arriving at Ioppa, through the treason of thofe that fled, was there imprifoned.



When this moft famous knight, and myr- rour of honour, had repofed himfelfe with thofe wounded people, fome foure dayes, and had gotten ftrength to traualle, hee puruayed him fo; his iourney, and fet fo; ward as his way lay to Ioppa. To this place, fome of the Zeneraries which efca- ped from the fight, was come befoze, lay- ing watch there, as alfe at Rama, and other places, fo; ftay of



the knight in his passage. At this towne, the General no sooner arrived, but by those tokens was given, he was well knowne, and had entertainment by the Bashaw, which late in the gate laylie, of purpose to entertaine such traualers as came.

When the knight had declared what he was, and his occasion of trauaile, doing all customes that to the place appertained, deliuering his weapons, with which, no man being a stranger, is suffered to enter, hauing him naked, and at aduantage with nothing to defend himselfe, or offend them, the Bashaw suffered him to enter the towne, appointing his lodging as the custome is to doe. But befoze he recouered the place, an vgly monster of men, with a face as grieuie as a Beare, came vnto him, accompanied with a traine of rakeshames, which attended him, all weaponed: and laying violent hands vpon him, calling and reuiling him at his pleasure, commanding him to go with him.

The knight and his companie that saw this extremitie and wrong offered him, being now in such a place, where it was bootlesse to resist them, hoping the best, yelded himselfe vnto their mercies, who caried him to a most wilde and stinking priuie where the room was scanty able to lodge two dogs, hauing nothing but the bare earth to lodge on, neither could he be suffered to haue any, his trunks, bedding, and such money and goods as he had, they confiscated to the Bashawes vles, who would not depart with one o'spere of his dutie.

The knight in safetie, they laide hands on the page, who being a proper yong man, they sought to haue him a Turke: But he who scorned his life, in regard of Gods fauour and loue, on which he builded, resisted all their deuises, sometimes speaking sayde, and other times, daring them to doe what they durst, respecting nothing what they could deuise to doe him harme, such was his constancie and firme hope in God.

The Spaniards and the two Easterlings, were fayne to sticke still to their olde consortes for fauour, whome they won with such gentle speeches, to fauour the knight, that they obtained leave to bring him his byrds, which was so good as

any

any they could get for their monies, euer chering him in his extremities, bowing themselves his, so assured, that their liues should be offered for their safetie, which comfort hee took so kindly, as if they had done him all the good hee could himselfe desire, promising a good requitall, if God euer released him of those troubles.

Thus leaue we the noble Edward in his imprisonment, for a time: the Page to the fauour of the Bashaw, and the Easterlings employing all their best power for his deliuerance, to let you heare of the lady Vallia, & her companie, what hapned there.

## CHAP. XI.

Howe the Emperour with all his traine, set forwardes from Rome, to conduct the Ladie Vallia vnto Rome.



The Emperour hauing made the atonement with the Pope for his people, omitted no time for purueying all thinges, which might any wayes tend to his honour, or please his most noble friends ladie, whom in his absence he took a princely care of, which ordained as he could best deuise, he dispatched two noble men of his Court, with great presents vnto her, to signifie his comming, which took the easier iourney, his age requiring it, commanding those nobles to see each thing with such honour to be furnished, as if himselfe were present. With this charge the nobles departed, desirous to see the Ladie, of whome for her rare vertures, and most excellent graces was so much spoken of, as also for her Lordes sake, whose followers in the Emperours wars they sometimes were, delatey no time for performance of what they intended: so as in very short time they arrived at Cenita Vecha, & were suddenly brought to the ladies presence, vnto who doing all the reuerence they could, or as their countries vse is, they declared the great care of the Emperour for her, the ioy he conceiued of

## A pleasant Historie of the

her safetie and good arrivall in his confines, and how much he desired the presence of her Lord and husband, whose welfare he wished as his own, and whose companie he more desired, then all the Princes of the world. This said, and the Lady returning heartie thanks for those princely favours, as also for her honorable presence, the nobles desirous to be certified of her knights safetie, beganne to question with her of many sundry matters, who were with such wisdom and honourable courtesie answered, that they admired her, giving her the praise of all the Ladies that ever they had scene.

The nobles delighting in her companie, neuer were satisfied with her speech, but as times convenient served, with much pleasant parley and speech of importance, as occasion was ministered, they passed the time two or three daies. After which time, the Lady, who had often felt such fits as to young women are incident, though unaccustomed with those passions, and being acquainted with none but her Alinda, which had as small skill in such causes as her selfe, she put that off often with good countenance, which beganne now to increase so on her, that she could no longer hide: all which she attributed to her travaile, and such other cares as she endured, that to be assured of her disease and to seek relief for her, being in verie weak case, they acquainted the Physician of the cardinall with her matter, who by all his skill, found the cause no other, but breeding child, for which having a careful regard (commanded strictly unto it by his Lord) he prescribed order of diet and government for her, which he gave with great charge unto Alinda, to execute. In this careful beaume of the Ladies sicknesse, a messenger arrived at the palace, which brought tidings of the Emperors coming, who was within halfe a dayes iourney, and meant God willing to sup with them that night. At hearing of which, a great stir began in the citie, making all the preparation for his most honorable entertainment. The Cardinall with all his crew mounting themselves, with all the nobles and burgesses of the Citie, in good and most commendable order, issued the Citie to meete him, at whose coming, such a general ioy was scene in

currie

## Knight of the holy Crosse:

cuerie place, as of long time had not bene the like.

That kind and loving embracing was betwene the Cardinall & him, the Bishops, Abots, and all the rest, with shewes of loue and dutie, and how honourably the same was requited, I omit, bringing him to the palace gate, his long desired place to be: where the Lady Valia met her Alinda, and all the Ladies of the nobilitie and honour met him, unto whom Valia prostrating her selfe on her knees, besought his excellent highnesse, to accept the humble service of her lord and husband, who rested his in all dutie, beseeching his imperiall maiestie to pardon his negligence, and lasse other Lords letters, by which she was recommended unto his favourable custodie, not omitting each particular action, which chanced her and her companie, with the cause of their losse, of all which she intreated his maiestie to enquire of those marchants, and that reverent father the Frier, to whose charge she was committed by her Lord.

The Emperour full of maiestie and honour, making great shewes of heartie welcome to her and her people, most honourably entertained them, giving those Ladies and nobles of his countrey gracions thanks, in honouring him so much as they had done, in entertaining this welcome Lady to his countrey. These welcomes of each side given, the time until supper was ready, they pleasantly spent in discoursing of severall matters, the most part tending to the honour and high commendations of the knight of the Holy Crosse, of whose valour, courtesie, and resolution, they all affirmed none could sufficiently speake. At hearing of which, suppose you Ladies and women of what extreme soeuer, that haue men of person, valour, and honour, endowed with many good parts, as this noble Edward, if Valia were proud yea or no, you are made iudges of her thoughts, which by your owne thoughts can best censure of hers, if she be proud, it is not her fault, for by him his countries honour thow the world is increased.

CHAP. XII.

How the Emperour taking care for the Ladie his charge, after great honour done vnto her, set forwards to Rome.



**H**e Emperour whose honourable thoughts was most in giuing due honour vnto the Ladie, was ioyfull in her presence, but moze ioyfull in that she was with child, which he hoped should haue his beginning in the world in his dominions, for whom as for the Ladie he was not a little carefull, taking an especiall charge on himself, for her easie conuay to Rome, whether after some stay made, as well for the ease of his aged body, as for dispatch of such businesse the lady had then in hand, when by his excellent bountie at her entercellion, the Marchants for their goods lost, were satisfied, and those Christian prisoners with good rewards set free, and all things sorted to such happie event as she desired, euery one content, and the Emperour best pleased in his charge, hearing by generall report, her most godly behaviour, and her resolute courage, in their and her owne defence, louingly embracing her, he sayth: welcome the flower of womanhood, to thine owne Empire, where thou shalt not liue to be commaunded, but to command: whatsoeuer I possesse, in all places where I haue any command: therfore honourable Ladie, set feare and care apart, and frolicke it with those whose care is now for you and your welfare.

For whose gracious offers, Vallia rendered her most hearty thanks, beseeching God to endue her Lord with life, and safe returne to Rome, that hee might acknowledge the like.

This finished, the Emperour commaunded to prepare for their iourney, which was in all readinesse against the next morning, when with all the honour might be shewen, shee was

was accompanied, with all the estates of the countrey, both Ladyes and others: at whose departing the citie, great gifts were presented vnto her, which she most thankfully accepted, and the Emperour for her sake most honourably and bountifully requited.

Thus leaving the citie of old Rome, by verie easie iourneyes they proceeded, passing the way with all deuises might be procured, to beguile the weariness of the iourney, as hawking, hunting, and other pastimes and pleasing discourses, in which, the Emperour desirous to knowe of what countrey she was, for that shee spake his owne language so perfectly, required it at her hande as an especiall fauour, which Vallia with great reuerence and courtesie answered, discoursing briefly vnto him the long and heartie affection shee bore him, being but a stranger, and how she left her fathers court, with her woman then attending on her, disguised both in mans attyre, not omitting his deliuerance from the Spanish imprisonment, with all their proceedings, vntill their marriage. Which wonderfull discourse the Emperour was neuer wearied to heare: when she had all finished, with such heartie leue and moze zealous affection, if moze might be, kissing her tender cheekes, which he bedewed with his teares, proceeding from the entire ioy of his most honorable hart, he saith, Thy lamp of honor, & wonder of y<sup>e</sup> earth, how may thy most deserued praises be eternized as thy merit: my noble friend in so honourable a child, and thy countrey thrise happie is renowned wherein thou hadst thy being: blessed be y<sup>e</sup> loynes from whence thou proceedest, & a world of happinesse betide those, whose tender paps gaue thee nourishment. Honorable friend Duke Philip, happy father, eternally shal thy name liue, in this gracious and noble child: oh Philip, ioy of thy louing friends and kin, didst thou know thy daughter, whom long sithence it may be, thou reckonest among the dead, where lining and so neare thee, what ioy would it bring thy drooping aged heart: He thinkes I see thy sprites how they would skip, to heare thy Vallia liueth, which thou shalt know, with such speed: as I best may, or can giue thee notice thereof.

if you gracious Ladie say I shal, to what I intend. Vallia seeing the tope of the Emperour, for her fathers good, could not forbear shedding teares at his kind offers: which passing oner as she best could, prostrating her selfe, she in all humblenes, besought his Maiestie, to thinke he lve much she had incurred her fathers high displeasure, so to haue him; without giuing any notice of her departure to any one, which she doubted would neuer be recovered without his speciall suit, which if by his most honourable meanes she did obtaine, he w<sup>ch</sup> she should hold her selfe blessed of God, and honoured of his highnesse, modestie caused her conceale: knowing by the honour of her husbands name, that all the fauour he could do her, was not, neither could it be so acceptable vnto her as this.

The Emperour noting her heavinesse for her fathers displeasure, comforted her all he might, assuring her on his honour, to recover what she required: And calling for pen, ynke, and paper, wrote as followeth.

*To the most gracious and noble Prince Philip, Duke of  
Genoway, and Naples, health, and  
continuell happinesse.*

**T**Hise honoured Duke, a longing desire hath moued vs oftentimes, since our last being together, to see your excellencie: but the consideration of your age and imbecilitie, vameete for trauaile, hath made vs forbear to trouble you, until this instant, a cause of importance to our ioy, and your great comfort happily chauncing, (at least) if thy fatherly loue be such, to see thy supposed lost childe, the Princeesse Vallia, of whom we haue certaine tidings, shee is in health and safetie, for whose pardon we haue undertaken to become a soliciter, and hope of successe in our suite: the offence beeing the more pardonable, in that it was affection, and entire loue of that noble Gentleman, the knight of the holie Crosse your ioldier, and our long friend, whose wife, to thy comfort, and honour of your house she is.

There

Therefore, if thou reioyce in her happinesse, as thy age, and abilitie will giue leaue, come vnto vs, who in person, will accompany you to her presence, who as we here, groneth with the pains of another, as our phisitions enforme vs. And so expecting what we desire from you, we bid you heartlie farewell. At our imperial court, signed with our royal signet.

*Augustus Magnus.*

These letters written, he read the contents vnto the Ladie Valya, who praying for his long life, she heartily thanked him for his gracious fauour and care of her, which done, & she there with well pleased, he signed and subscribed the same. Then calling one of his Nobles, which was graue, and of honourable account, he deliuered the same, with especiall charge, for the speedie conuay thereof, and secret concealing of the Ladie. Which done (commending him to his iourney, and good performance of his charge) hee bid him farewell, whom we leaue to his trauaile, and the Emperour and the Lady, vnto theys pleasure, vntill her time of deliuerance, of which you shall here, as soone as the midwife hath done her office.

### CHAP. XIII.

How the Knight of the Crosse, by the industrie of the two easterlings and the page was freed from prison, and what chanced to them.



**T**He Noble Edward cloyed with his mishaps, and harsh blage in his imprisonment, thought euery moneth a yeare, and euery minute a moneth, vntill he was at libertie. Oftentimes perswading himselfe to great hazard in freeing him from that captiuitie: And then by intreatie of those, one whose trust he relied his determinations ceased,

Ⓔ

attending

attending his pleasure, which neuer left him without comfort, his poore followers doing for him what they could. But as long looked for, comes at last, so the time of his deliuerie drawing nize, and euerie thing effected securely, his guides by whome hee was to be ruled, pretending a iourney to Sylo, obtained his horse and armour of the bashaw, for a present to their Bashaw, from whence they came, which closely they conuained away out of the citie, to a place of seacretie, which they in their idle walke had founde, leaving the Page in his lodging, which was in a Jewes house verie secret. For the Page they obtained Turkish attire, and him furnished very orderly, with a counterfeited mustache, the better to disguise him for being known, having another for the knight, vnto whom before their going they had imparted their deuise, which was to stay his keeper that euening, when he came to bring him water, and in his apparrell to escape, appoynting him a place without the Citie, where they with the Page would carrie his comming. This done, first conuaying the page in his attire, which escaped the watch without suspect: they sought the gayleour, of whome pretending to take a solemne farewell, they carryed him to a Banian, a place where the Christian Captiues were kept, plying him so with Aqua viue, or as they call it Rakcayc, that he forgot himselfe, that with kindness and shewes of loue, they procured him to the prison, to take their leaue of the knight, wherein the keeper was no longer entred, but the Castrellings thinking that the fittest time, gaue him the sword to make him away, whilst they kept sure garde for his safetie. By whose deuise being ruled, the Gaylor ended his life, with a weapon which they gaue him: which doone, long stood not our knight attyning himselfe in Cerberus apparrell, who being furnished, and disguised with a counterfeited beard, hee aduentured thorow the gate all alone, feigning a manner of stumbling and reeling in the gate, and passed the ward, who seeing him in that manner dress, cryed out Buracho, which is to say drunken. This done, his companions seeing all well effected, made no long stay, but presently foloweth, and brought him vnto the

came, where the Page with the Spaniard and Moore stayed: they presently mounted themselves, and away they go, praying God for his deliuerance. The haste was made, is not to be forgotten, who neuer ceased galloping untill they came farre without daunger of the Colone, where night ouertaking them, they found place fit for their purpose, where they alighting, gaue God prayse, and refreshed themselves awhile. Here the knight armed himselfe with his armour, girding his sword of great worth close to his side, which done, they againe mounted themselves, and taking a course as they thought, farre from sight of any theyr olde acquaintance, or keeping any readie way for feare of entrecepting, they traualled by ayne. Two dayes, and somewhat more well neare was spent, since their comming from Ioppa, when they met with a Moore, borne neare Algere, in Barbarie, who comming from Myca (the place where their Prophet Mahomet was buried) was that day spoiled by a rout of Arabian theues, which kept those mountains. Of those spoiling people, the Moore warned the knight and his company who were all dismayed at his tidings: yet by the most noble knight comforted, relying on his valour, more then theyr owne manhood, they proceeded, traualling all that day, yet neuer heard any newes of them. The next morning, the knight hauing taken some extraordinarie sleep, it was long before they putte forthward, when they had not ridden by theyr account one league, but they espied a cettie of horsemen which were so farre from them, on the side of a huge mountaine, as they coulde well desearne. This sight caused the companie to doubt of some ensuing euill, which the knight perceiuing, againe incouraged them, so comforting those his companions with his speeches, that they cast all feare apart, to take part with him that was not to be daunted with euerie naked bug. In this mind continuing, these faint hearts looking about them often in their traualle (for feare they shuld be backed) they espied another rout, which had them in chase, acquainting the knight withal, of who he took little care, but commanded them



to holde on their way easily, that if they followed them, they might overtake them, before the foremost could come to helpe them.

Long had they not ridden, following the knights directions, but one of the gallants that pursued them, was come forward with them, who biewing their strength, which he supposed was far to weake to encounter them, began in scoffing tearmes to flout them, especially the knight which he saw armed.

Edward, which brooked all offences unwittingly committed, and courteously reconciled, seeing the peremptorie doings of this base groom, drawing neere vnto him, said. Base fugitive, who was thy schoolmaster that learned thee no more good: hereafter when thou chancest to meet strangers, salute them with more curtesie. And therewithall lifting vp his Battelare, gaue him so sound a blow on the head, as the brains started about his horse necke. And he having no power to sit, forsooke his horse, falling dead vnder his feet. His companie which saw him fall, and had noted the blow he receiued, gan all at once to assaile the knight, bending their launces vpon his breast, which like a man of power and policie, he cunningly alwarded, and drawing his cartelap, which before he had bathed in the luke warme gore of many those helthounds, he so behaued himself, that in few hours he left not many of them to stand: but leaving their horses maimed, exchanged such as they best fancied, and left the rest to their owne libertie. The other companie, which from the top of the mountain had scene the feats of Armes done by the knight, thinking to rescue those that liued, and to reuenge those that were slaine, came amaine vpon them, sparing not their horse sides from the spurs, to learne them a swifter pace, (but in ill time) so sone came they to the after reckoning: for they were faine to pay the host, who gaue them such entertainment, as they had neuer power to depart from him, so honestly did this honour of knightthod deale with them, whom he found so cruel without cause offered them. In this companie there were foure Portugall marchants, whose Camels these villaines had spoiled, taking their goods, and kept them captiue, intending to sell

them as slaues, to the first caualliers of that countrey. These Marchants being vnder the charge of their horse-keepers, left far off, seeing the ill successe of the robbers, made way for themselves, recouering such weapons as the slaues had, from whom being cleare, they mainly followed the knight, crying vnto him for succor, and earnestly beseeching his fauor, which the knight perceiuing, caused the rest to stay, spurring his horse to meete them, to giue them rescue from the slaues that pursued them, from whom they fled with all the hast they could make, but with too slow speed, for some of them were faine to stay behind their legs being too weake to carrie their bodies. The knight returning from spoil of those slaues, enquired of the marchants of whence they were, they answered of Portugall, and were bound for traffique, with an hundred Camels laden with spice and silke for Constantinople, of all which they had bene spoiled by these villaines, of which fraternitie, there was as many more as he had slaine. The knight which saw the heauie countenance of the poore Marchants, could not forbear to pittie them, and commanded them to horse themselves, vpon the best of theirs which he had slaine, which done, taking care for their release of bittailles, for their horses, and for themselves, they were conducted to the place, where the store of those theues lay, where they furnished themselves with such viands as they liued with. And after taking choise of all maner of furniture, money, spice, and iuelles, so much as they pleased, they fired the rest, and departed, holding their journey by the Portugals directions, who were verie well acquainted in those mountaines, applying still to recouer the holy Cittie of Ierusalem, neuer daring to enter any towne or place of force, as you shall hereafter vnderstand.

## CHAP. XIII.

How the Bashaw of Ioppa missing his prisoner, pursued him, and how he escaped.



**N**ow the covetous Bashaw, which had the custodie of this honourable knight, was perswaded by the Easterlings his friends, that the Bashaw of Silo, would give for his prisoner, tenne hundred thousand Duckats. In hope of which, at their earnest suites he kept him alive, sending his horse, armour, and furniture by them, unto their Bashaw for a present (as before you have heard) but when he missed the knight, the Page, and those Runagates, he was like in choler to have slaine himselfe, by desperation to send his soule to the Diuell before his time, from which extremitie, no perswasion of his best and dearest friends, might any way preuaile, but that in a furie he would mischiefe himselfe, seeing that by his too much trust, he was so deceived of a prisoner, and a benefellow of so much worth, as the knight and his Page, whom he intended to yield to his pleasure.

The Bashaw which fared in such frantike maner, being thinking him of all the Diuelish practises could be intended, called to minde an ancient Pigromancer, which kept in the Mountaines, betwene Ioppa and Rama, in the way to Ierusalem. By this good fellow he thought to be reuenged, what soeuer it cost him, and so comforting himselfe in that hope, hee ceaseth his raging furie, dispatching two of his best approved friends in search of this diuelish practiser, who used such diligence in their businesse, that in short time they found him, in whom this Bashaw reposed his whole confidence for reuenge.

This diuell incarnate, they intreated with all curtesie, and best

best pleasing speeches they could frame, to go with them to Ioppa, to the Bashaw, promising great summes of golde for his paine. But all their intreaties or perswasions preuailed nothing with him: if the Bashaw haue ought with him to do, he must be messenger himselfe, or surcease his businesse: which peremptorie course of this Archdiuell, unto the Bashaw made knowne by his friends, though he were in mind grieued at his denial, yet he wisely considered, how vainly he should spend his time in seeking reuenge on him. Wherefore, without any further trouble (accompanied with a garrison of Fencibles, and his two friends for his guides) he set forward from Ioppa, and in time conuenient, came before the Caue, where the Pigromancer kept, who knowing of his coming, thought to be somewhat pleasant with him, to trie his manhood. When the Bashaw had a while attended, & saw none stirring unto who to speake, he commanded a souldier to knocke: which done, the Cuniurer transformed into the likenesse of a monstrous diuell, breathing flames of fire from his nostrils, came out unto the, whose ugly shape caused them all to such feare, that they wished themselves again in Ioppa, and were ready to take their heels to be gone. But seeing their timoronsnesse, hee took another way from them, and inuisibly returned into his caue.

Once againe making triall what was in them, took on him the forme of a little goate, thinking they would be doing therewith, if any occasion should be offered them. To preuent therefore what danger in this disguise might insue, he annoynted his head and body with an oyntment, which so hardened his skin, that no weapon would pearce it.

This done, he issued againe amongst them, which durst not knocke anie more. And approaching neare the Bashaw himselfe, began furiously to sing fire vpon him: which his companie seeing, armed them to his defence, whom the supposed goate euer assailed with fire, some time singing on him so furiously, as hee would feare him in peeces, manie times clawing him, that he enforced him to runne away, leauing his message to do for which he came.

This

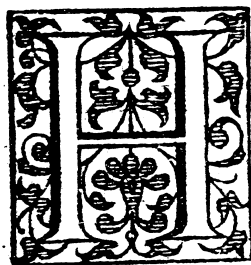
This conurer when he had plaide his part with him, and saw that he would be gone, thought to speake with him, to see how he liked his entertainment, and shifting him to his wearing apparrell, met him on the way, as if he had no knowledge of his being there.

The Bashaw his kinsmen which did know him well, when first they had sight of him, shewed the Bashaw, who coming towards him, after the countrey fashion saluted him, and alighting from his horse, briefly tolde him the cause of his coming, beseeching his fauour and helpe for recouerie of the lost knight, for which he promised to reward him to his content.

The sorcerer which saw the enuie of the Bashaw in hope of gaine, promised him to do what art could, for accomplishing his will, craving respite of time foure or fife dayes, that hee might finde what way he took, which said, and they both thereupon agreeing, they take leaue each of other, whom to their diuellish practise we leaue, returning to the Ladie Vallia.

## CHAP. XV.

How the Emperours message being done to the duke of Genoway, for verie ioy of his daughters life he dieth, and what else chanceth.



Here Gentles the storie sheweth vs of the Emperours safe arriual in Rome, where the many courtesses offered to the Ladie was such (as well for her owne sake, being daughter and haire to the noble Duke of Genoway, as for the leue and entire affection of the renowned knight of the Crosse, her honourable and beloued hus-

band) that the Emperour thought himselfe greatly bound vnto all his nobles and communaltie, and highly contented the Ladie his charge, for whose pleasure and content so much cost was employed. The recounting of each particular I omit,

leaving

## Knight of the holy Crosse.

leaving the Ladie to the solitarie thoughts of her best beloued Lord, and her gracious father the Duke, from whom the Emperour expected hourly the returne of the noble man, his ambassador, who being as carefull of the charge to him committed, spareth not his hard and diligent trauail, night nor day, vntill he recouered the end of his long wished for iourney: which finished and come to the Emperours presence, prostrating himselfe on his knee, was most graciously welcomed of the Emperour, whom he questioneth of the Dukes health, and welfare of his state. The noble man which imagined how heauie the newes he had to report, would be to his highnesse, and all the hearers, humbly besought the Emperour to heare in secret what he had to deliuer, which the Emperour graunted, withdrawing himselfe of purpose, which done, he saith.

Tell me (noble friend) what chance hath befallen thee in this trauell of thine, and how fareth our honorable friend the duke. Gracious liege, and my deare Lord, answered this noble gentleman, to keepe from your highnesse, what you must know in time, though with a heart full fraught with griefe, it cumbereth me greatly, to become the heauie messenger of such tragick newes. Know (most excellent Prince) the duke hath left this life, to seeke the ioyes of the heavenly Hierarchie. The Emperour whose thoughts were surprised with heauinesse, hearing his long deferred answer to his questions, breathing out manie sighes at the deliuerie of the same, with sighes and bitter teares (after he had a while lamented, with many mornefull cries, and pitifull speeches, the Dukes death) he straitly chargeth the noble man, to deliuer vnto him the tyme of his departure from this world, and the cause: whether of any old griefe, or suddaine action: commaunding him (all bread set a part) to tell the truth.

The noble man (whose heauie heart by his outward sorrowes might well appeare, thought hee could well haue sorrowe the reuealing thereof, yet not daring through silence, to incurr his highnesse displeasure he saith. Most gracious soveraigne: thus, and in this manner, saied it with the duke at my



first arrivall at his princely Court, who frolicke with the best, joyfull and pleasant to heare of your Majesties health, as his love might well appere, by those welcomes I received from him, and his Nobles, by his command, of whom I was so entertained, as well might beseme a state of great account and maiestie, reuerencing your highnesse, in those honours done me. But too soone (dread and excellent Emperour) was the gleaming ioyes of this courtly Nobilitie overhadowed, with mylles of direfull sorrow, chauncing by the dukes suddaine death, who as it is supposed by his people, most in account with him, ever ioyed at your excellent kind tydings of his supposed lost child, surprised with a simphaine of exceeding gladnesse, lest his honorable life, to the greyt heavynesse of his subjects, as wel his Nobles as Commons, who with most bitter and grievous complaints, spende their time in such continuall lamentation, as might moue the heart most hardest, with teares, to accompany them.

The Nobles for the comfort of their Duke, with whome they were where (onely there reuerend due tie reserved) companions in all exercises. The Commons hee oppressed not: the wronged, he by law iustlie restored to right: the widow and fatherlesse, hee carefully provided for: the maimed solidour, most bountifullly maintained. In brieft, (most excellent, and my gracious soueraigne) there is no state, no subject, or any vnder his gouernment, which hath not great cause to imploye the losse of this good Duke.

This dolefull discourse he finished with so deepe a sigh, as pressed teares from his ouer-griued heart, which restraining his tongue, caused him to bee silent, and moued the Emperour at his sorrow to shedde many teares, which being suddenly ouerpast, the grieuing and most gracious Emperour, raising the Noble man from the ground, louingly embracing him, saide.

A tale of sorrowe, and much griefe hast thou deliuered, which moued my heart to lament, the death of such a most honoured Prince, and to giene for those subjects, whose lesse is

so great. But tell mee, who gouerneth howe affect they the returne of the Prince Lord (answered this sorrowfull Noble nerrall consent, is in the rule of Don Noble Gentleman, of graue countenance, and most noble enclined, who so portunate suite of the subjects of all estimable sort carrieth himse: so that by late dead, is in iustice and all other goodlyed, little missing, to be equall onlie, thacknowledged: so that the happinesse more, in so prouident a gouernour. Whistle with your highnesse, and all other such line, which payed honour, and weale, befoze their owne courtous and where lawes are not solde for Lords plebupt iustices, where through the peCommis vndone, and the state unGods honoured, and the Prince truly blessings be, there is lone of Subirds, their princes. Well hast thou sayd (qu in thy speech hast comforted my spirit course the honours of this noble Court nouer euer for thy honorable report: or committed the secrecie of his answer great wisdom, loath that the suddau way discomfort the Ladie, whose welowne good. And so betaking the Emperdie for the Ladies sake, and the noble amongst his friends, hee returne again who is now in the way to the holy Citi

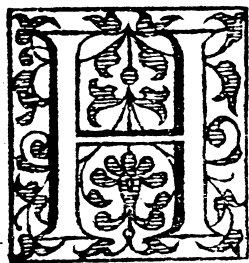
Whis conurer when he had plaide his part with him, and saw that he would be gone, thought to speake with him, to see how he liked his entertainment, and shewing him to his wearing apparrell, met him on the way, as if he had no knowledge of his being there.

The Bashaw to his kinsmen which did know him well, when first they had sight of him shewed the Bashaw, who coming towards him, after the countrey fashion saluted him, and alighting from his horse, briefly tolde him the cause of his coming, beseeching his fauour and helpe for recouerie of the lost knight, for which he promised to reward him to his content.

The sorcerer which saw the enuie of the Bashaw in hope of gaine, promised him to do what art could, for accomplishing his will, craving respite of time foure or fise dayes, that hee might finde what way he toke, which said, and they both thereupon agreeing, they take leave each of other, whom to their diuellish practise we leaue, returning to the Ladie Vallia.

## CHAP. XV.

How the Emperours message being done to the duke of Genoway, for verie ioy of his daughters life he dieth, and what else chanceth.



Here Gentles the storie sheweth vs of the Emperours safe arriuall in Rome, where the many courtesies offered to the Ladie was such (as well for her owne sake, being daughter and haire to the noble Duke of Genoway, as for the leue and entire affection of the renowned knight of the Crosse, her honourable and beloued husband

that the Emperour thought himselfe greatly bound vnto all his nobles and communaltie, and highly contented the Ladie his charge, for whose pleasure and content so much cost was employed. The recounting of each particular I omit, leaving

## Knight of the holy Crosse.

leaving the Ladie to the solitarie thoughts of her best beloued Lord, and her gracious father the Duke, from whom the Emperour expected hourly the returne of the noble man, his ambassadour, who being as carefull of the charge to him committed, spareth not his hard and diligent trauail, night nor day, vntill he recovered the end of his long wished for iourney: which finished and come to the Emperours presence, prostrating himselfe on his knee, was most graciously welcomed of the Emperour, whom he questioneth of the Dukes health, and welfare of his state. The noble man which imagined how heauie the newes he had to report, would be to his highnesse, and all the hearers, humbly besought the Emperour to heare in secret what he had to deliuer, which the Emperour graunted, withdrawing himselfe of purpose, which done, he saith.

Tell me (noble friend) what chance hath befallen thee in this trauell of thine, and how fareth our honozable friend the duke. Gracious liege, and my deare Lord, answered this noble gentleman, to keepe from your highnesse, what you must know in time, though with a heart full fraught with grieve, it cumbzeth me greatly, to become the heauie messenger of such tragicke newes. Know (most excellent Prince) the duke hath left this life, to seeke the ioyes of the heavenly Hierarchie. The Emperour whose thoughts were surpris'd with heauinesse, hearing his long deferred answer to his questions, breathing out manie sighes at the deliuerie of the same, with sighes and bitter teares (after he had a while lamented, with many mournfull cries, and pitifull speeches, the Dukes death) he straightly chargeth the noble man, to deliuer vnto him the time of his departure from this world, and the cause: whether of any old grieve, or suddaine action: commaunding him (all dread set a part) to tell the truth.

The noble man (whose heauie heart by his outward sorrowes might well appeare, thought hee could well haue sorrowe the reuealing thereof, yet not daring through silence, to incurre his highnesse displeasure he saith. Most gracious soveraigne thus, and in this manner, fared it with the duke at my

first arrivall at his princely Court, who frolicke with the best, loyal and pleasant to heare of your Majesties health, as his love might well appeare, by those welcomes I received from him, and his Nobles, by his command, of whom I was so entertained, as well might beseeme a state of great account and maiestie, reverencing your highnesse, in those honours done me. But too soone (good and excellent Emperour) was the gleaming toyes of this courtie possibilitie overhadowed, with clouds of direfull sorow, chauncing by the dukes suddaine death, who as it is supposed by his people, most in account with him, ever loyed at your excellent kind trydings of his supposed lost child, surprised with a simphanie of exceeding gladnesse, left his honorable life, to the great heavynesse of his subiects, as wel his Nobles as Commons, who with most bitter and grievous complaints, spende their time in such continuall lamentation, as might moue the heart most hardest, with teares, to accompanie them.

The Nobles for the comfort of their Duke, with whome they were euerie where (onely there requierend due tie reserved) companions in all exercises. The Commons hee oppressed not: the wronged, he by law iustlie restored to right: the widow and fatherlesse, hee carefully provided for: the maimed souldiour, most bountifullly maintained. In briefe, (most excellent, and my gracious soueraigne) there is no state, no subiect, or any vnder his government, which hath not great cause to imploye the losse of this good Duke.

This dolefull discourse he finished with so deepe a sigh, as pressed teares from his over-griued heart, which restraining his tongue, caused him to bee silent, and moued the Emperour at his sorow to shedde many teares, which being suddentlie overpast, the grievous and most gracious Emperour, raising the Noble man from the ground, lovingly embracing him, saide.

A tale of sorow, and much grieve hast thou deliuered, which moued my heart to lament, the death of such a most honoured Prince, and to grieve for those subiects, whose losse is

so great. But tell mee, who governeth the Dukedome? and howe affect they the returne of the Princeesse? Most gracious Lord (answered this sorrowfull Noble man) the state by a generall consent, is in the rule of Don Sebastian Andrea, a Noble Gentleman, of graue countenance, verie politique, wise, and most noble inclined, who forced vnto it by the importunate suite of the subiects of all estates, in most honourable sort carrieth himselfe: so that by his rule, their Prince late dead, is in iustice and all other good partes before remembered, little missing, to be equall onelic, the nobilitie of his house acknowledged: so that the happinesse of the Countrey is the more, in so prouident a gouernour. The like of whom, I haue till with your highnesse, and all other Princes: for where such line, which pyrfed honour, and the publike common weale, befoze their owne courtous and priuate commoditie, where lawes are not solde for Lords pleasures, nor bybes corrupt iustices, where through the poore are oppressed, the Commons vndone, and the state impouerished, there is God honoured, and the Prince truly serued. And where such blessings be, there is lone of Subiects, and faithfull heartes to their princes. Well hast thou sayd (quoth the Emperour) and in thy speech hast comforted my spirites, to heare thee discourse the honours of this noble Gouernour, whom I will honour euer for thy honorable report: on which meditating, he committed the secrecie of his aunswere to the Noble man his great wisdom, loath that the suddaine newes shoulde anie way discomfort the Ladie, whose welfare he pyied befoze his owne good. And so betaking the Emperour to his carefull studie for the Ladies quiet, and the noble Messenger to his repose amongst his friends, we returne againe to our noble Edward, who is now in the way to the holy Citie.

## CHAP. XVI.

How the Knight of the holy Crosse, accompanied with the Portugals, and his other companions iourned to the citie of Ierusalem, and what happened them.



When the noble Edward had by his prowess, and honourable feates of Armes, by death of those miscreants, released the Portugall Marchants from theyr captiuitie, storing themselves with such needfull prouision, as they coude conveniently carrie. They spedde themselves with all the haste they could, to end their desired businesse, and fulfill their bowes in the holie Citie, keeping the way continually by the Mountanes, without any aduenture happening, untill one of the Gasterlings, fell into such daunger of death, that there was no way to recouer him, which the pittifull knight perceyuing, and hoping the best for his recouerie, making his stay to see the end, what would become of him, he applied himselfe by all meanes to seeke his recouerie, which was past all remedie. In which extremitie, our braue English Cavalere, playing the part of a heauenly Philitian, comforted his weake patient, in the promises of Christ Iesus, and his passion, earnestly perswading him, to remember his time euill spent in this woylde, and howe manie and grievous times hee had committed for any daunger, or hope of wooldly promotions, to forsake his Sauour, whose mercies was moze to be regarded, then a legion of liues, or all the Kingdomes of the woylde.

In which comfortable wordes the distressed Gasterling taking great pleasure, when the houre came of his latest farewell to the woylde, embracing the knight betwene his armes, when his faltering tongue had lost the vse of speech

he shewed by signes, the hopes he had to be a copartner of the heauenly kingdome, and therewithall refined his breath, whom after the Christian manner in those mountaines, they entered as they best could, which done (sorrowing for the losse of him whom from death they coule not recall) they proceeded on their iourney, in which they had not long traualled, but resting themselves in the desarts by a pleasant riuers side. The Mooze which befoze hee had taken to attende their horses, discreed comming with great speede towards them, a verie faire and beautifull woman, attired in a petticoate of crimson damaske, which was pursued by two Negroes slaues, which would violently haue abused her bodie. This strange sight in a place so vncomforth, when the Mooze had shewed the knight, like himselfe moued with pittie of distressed people, especially of her sexe, presently mounted himselfe, and met her, whom he questioned of whence she was, and what moued her to flie so swiftly from those villians. The Lady whom feare had almost downed to death, being in a greuous extasie, could not forbear to shewe the signe of ioy by her iecture, albeit her heart restrained her tongue speech, which the knight perceyuing, taking her in his armes, and brandishing his sword, thereby shewing to reuenge her wrong, he comforted her in such wise, as taking assured hope on him, which seemed by his habite to bee a christian, she said. Honourable knight, whom God hath rayfed for the comfort of a poore distressed captiue, know that I am wife vnto a noble Grecian knight, called Machatias, gouernour of Rhodes, who traualing with a small traine to perfoyme our religious bowes in the holy Citie, now two nights past, taking our lodging in these desarts, our tents pitched, and our guard hauing fire, as wel for our vse, to dresse and make ready our viands, as to defend themselves from the wilde beasts that haunt these mountaines, a crew of cruell and most brutish heathen, that keepe these places to disturbe the quiet of such passengers as they met, guided by the fire (as I said) came vnto our tents, whilst wee sleeping, dreaded neither them, nor any ether euill. By those captures was my most noble husband slaine, and such

of our company, as resisted their diuellish intents: which done, making mee their Captiue, they hoisted mee, and to theyr hellish mansion ledde mee, with some of our followers, where perforce they woulde haue bereaft mee of that most precious ornament which all good Women holde in more regarde then theyr life: yet preserved by Gods fauour, my teares and pittious cryes did so penetrate the hearts of those homicides, that they haue pardoned mee that ill, untill theyr returne from a spoyle which they haue undertaken, meaning to visite theyr home within three or foure dayes, leauing mee to the custodie of their Villaines, who with more villanie haue menaced mee to obtaine theyr pleasures, from whome hauing escaped by flight, I intreate you, that sheweth to be of gentle image, if thou bee no worse then thou seemest, eyther to preserve my chastitie from theyr rape by slaying mee, or like thy selfe, defende my innocencie, by auenging me on those accursed villaines that pursue me.

The Knight which during her long talke, had noted her gesture and modest demeanour, uttering her sadde lament, pittying her distresse sayde. Gentle Ladie, thy distresse my heart pittiyeth, seeing thee in this unfrequented place, so hardly besette with companions of base conditions, of whome feare not, for my selfe by the power of him that sent mee for thy comfort, will so reuenge thy iust cause, as well on these, as on theyr maisters, as they shall neuer take pleasure in wronging a Ladie arie more: and thereon assure you, as I am a Knight and a Christian. And without taking longer pause, willing the Ladie to staye her there, without dread of any man, he mounted his horse, and with his Sworde pursued the villaines, who fearing him, fledde as fast as they coude, but in an unhappie time, for his legges being of more stoutnesse, hee easily overtook them, paying them theyr due recompence for a fact so odious, with death. Which finished, cutting off theyr hendes, he brought them with him to the Ladie, who

thanking

thanking God for her deliuerance, rendered the like to the noble knight, vnto whome prostrating her selfe, shee submitted the care of her safetie, beseeching him as hee was a knight at armes, not to dishonour her, nor to leaue her untill hee came where Christians inhabited. Vnto which, gazing his honour, by many solemne oathes, hee tooke her from the grounde, comforting her with all kindnesse, protesting withall, that he woulde not leaue those desarts vsought, untill hee founde the dead bodie of her Lorde, to interre him with Christian rites, and reuenge his death on the robbers.

The Ladie which founde such vnerpected comfort in her distresse, after shee hadde with many kinde requitalles of friendshippe, and shewes of loue, gratified the knight, breaking her from her protestations, hee caused her to mount his horse, conducting her to his Tent, where theyr dinner, by those that helde him in more regarde then thier owne liues, was prepared, vnto whome the Ladie was welcome, wanting nothing of theyr store which was needfull, nor such honours as to her estate required. In this better content we leaue them a while, with sundrie discourses to beguile the time, to lette you knowe of theyr further aduentures.

CHAP.



CHAP. XVII.

Howe the Knight of the Holy Crosse in search of the dead body of Mathatias, gouernour of Roades, found him aliue, with other aduentures.



**H**e remaine of that day and the night following they spent in reposing themselves, the knight after he had taken such directions for his course in search of the Gouernour, her husband, as she could giue, puruaying them of victuals for two dayes provision, accompanied with two of the best fugall marchants, taking leaue of the Lady, and commending the trust of her safetie vnto the rest of his followers, he left them: passing from mountaine to mountaine, prying and beewing where hee could discern any Tent, or shew of any. So long rid he in this manner, that in the evening, about the going downe of the Sunne, hee might discerie a troupe of Camilles laden, guarded with three or foure naked mountenaries, to these the knight speedde him in all the haste, making such way, that hee soone ouertooke them, whome encounting, hee sayde. Tell me villaines of whence yee are, yea, and where had yee these Camilles with those marchandize in your keeping. The villaine mounteniers hearing the knight vse these speeches, uttered with a hoarse voyce and a looke threatening death, trembling as though they were readie to receiue their iudgement and present execution of life, kissing first the grounde, and after his feete, besought him to take compassion of them, relating in what sort they hadde the Camilles, which they hadde taken from others which hadde them in charge, belonging to those Thieves which hadde spoiled the Lady of her husband.

The

The knight vnderstanding by theyr talke that they could giue him notice of the spoiled bodyes, questioned them further, commaunding them on paine of theyr liues, to tell him where the Christians were, that were lately maisters of those Camilles, in doing which theyr liues should goe vntouched, or otherwise they should there finish their daies.

The villaines which would moze willingly haue bene further off, when they sawe their liues was to bee saued for a matter of such small importance with them, sayde. The sunne hath not yet two times declined his power, since certaine Christians trauailing these mountaines, were encountred by robbers, that haue their continuall being not farre off, who slaying the people, left these Camilles and goods in possession of their slaues to conduct them to theyr caue, which wee haue slaine, and humbly beseech thee of pardon.

Recreants (quoth the knight) you shall not so escape me, but you shall likewise die, if you bring me not presently to the place where those slaughtered bodyes lie, wherefore I aduise you do this and liue, or denying it receiue your deaths.

The villaines which sawe howe bootlesse it was to perswade, yielded theyr consentes, and hastned with so good speede, that they shortly arriued at the place, where they founde the mangled carcases of the slaine Christians, weltering in their goze.

This pittifull sight moued the knight of the Crosse to much ruth and sorow for their deaths, yet knowing howe bootlesse teares are to call againe the dead, dismounting himselfe, hee suruayed the bodyes, turning, and so often tossing, to search the body of the dead gouernour, that with often remouing hee founde it, and triuing his personage, noting each linament, with his countenance, shewing a man of prouesse, bedewing his bloudie face with his warme teares, hee might perceiue a panting breath to pos-

## A pleasant Historie of the

lesse hier, vnto which taking good heede, washing his face, and clearing it from the congealed bloud, hee opened his talues, powring into his mouth, of that wine which he brought for his prouision, and after rubbing & chafing his byfall powers, hee recovered his life: so comforting him with the heat of his hands, rubbing and other carefull handling, that his spirit waring strong, his tongue had some vse, when looking gassly vp, as one reuiued from a new world, hee called for his Ladie, and missing her, taking good notice of the Knight, which was a stranger vnto him, he thus said. Noble Gentlemen, and my frendes, what you are I know not, neither can I remember that euer I haue had any friendlytie with you, yet as you are Gentlemen, tell me of my Ladie, whither is become of her, whether aliuie or dead? next, what you are, whether frendes, or those that brought me to this miserie?

The Knight whose heart was overcome with suddain ioy, beholding the supposed dead to liue, and speak, answered: woorthie and noble Gouernour of that most honoured Iland, know, we are Christians as you are who hearing of thy distresse, haue undertaken to finde thy body, supposed to be slaine, by spoilers of such as passe these mountaines, and here haue their residence. Thy Lady I haue receiued from their tyrannie, and on their huzzes, haue reuenged the euill offered, by them vnto her, and by my maker, whose souldiour I am bound, will not depart these desarts, untill I be acquitted, of all your wrongs, or lose my life in your causes. Therefore take comfort, and thanke God for your safetie, whom I doubt not, but will be so gracious to restore you: your wounds I will undertake by Gods grace to recure, and deliuer in safetie your loue and Ladie: who liuing, dyeth with very sorrowe for your great mishap. The Gouernour hearing this comfort, well noting the manlike countenance and courage of the Knight, bending himselfe vnto him, rendered many heartie thanks for those kinde fauours, and embracing the Knight as his weake arms would giue him leaue, protested by the faith and honour of armes, for euer to become a firme frende and faithful co-part-

ner

## Knight of the holy Crosse.

ner of his aduentures, so pleased him to accept of his loue and fellowship.

The Knight whome no Spaniard could match, eyther in courtelie or honour of Armes, taking his proffered loue as kinde as they were offered, gaue him many heartie thanks. When dressing his woundes with such comfortable Balmes as he had, and binding them safe, they hoised him, pacing easily towarde the place where his company made their stay: where by the prouidence of him, who is the strength and conduct of all those that trust in him, they arrived in safetie, though not before they were lookt for, accompanied with their tents, canills, and their carriages, to the exceeding ioy of the Ladie, and the unspeakable comfort of all his owne followers. They friendly embrasings, and other talke of their fortunes, passing betwene the Gouernour and his Lady, I omit: to recount what other aduentures happened to them.

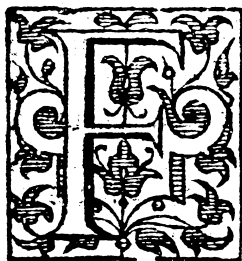
I 2

CHAR.



CHAP. XVIII.

How the Knight of the Holy Crosse, accompanied with the Easterling and his Page, followed the robbers: with his aduenture.



**E**Amous Edward, the honour of his countrey, whose valour was not to be matched, helde his countreyes reputation in more regarde then his life, whereon now standing, scorning the Spaniards braues, or the scandall that might ensue by his report, if hee should leaue them in such wise without reuenge, which he had promised: wherefore preferring his noble word, early in the morning, according to the directions he had giuen, taking leaue of the gouernour and his Ladie, accompanied with his Page and the Easterling, he sette forward in search of those bloudie minded reprobates, following the direction of one of the villains he had last taken, whom he taketh for his guide, all that day riding without any aduenture hapning, yet wearied with trauaile, desirous to refresh himselfe with taking some sleepe, hee caused his Tent to be prepared, and his viandcs to be ordained: and when hee had refreshed himselfe, not daring to committe the trust of his person, to so vile a slave, which was not to be trusted. After they horses were bled as they ought, he commaunded the slave to be bounde, taking order with his companie that one should watch whilst the other slept, and to take diligent care of their wellfares, that they were not surprized at vnawares.

This charge the carefull attendaunts saythfully kept and performed, the day appearing, they loosed the villain from his bondes, ordering the horses and each thing in

in readinesse: which done, they awaked the knight, who seeing the morning well spent, was not long preparing, but hastning with all the speede he might, betooke him to his intended pursuit of those homicides. So long they trauailed, that the heat of the day encreasing, they alighted, and seating them close on the banke of a pleasant riuer (taking such viands as they had, merrily spending the time with pleasant parlie) they might perceiue those gallants, who returning from the death of a heathen Prince, and spoyle of his people, missing their Ladie, bowed by all their gods neuer to surcease their trauaile, untill they had recovered knowledge of her. For which, coursing like men posselt with a furie in pursuite of the Ladie, the knight hath gained his desires, who requiing of the slave what they were, mounted on such swift coursers: he recounted vnto him what they were, aduising him to regarde himselfe, and to flie while he had time, for that they were many, and men of great puissance, hauing done many great outrages, and surprized sundry troupes of gallant men, trauailing that way. Pleasant (quoth the knight) it is not thy speech of their valour that can daunt me, or cause me to turne my backe, vpon these diuelish companions. But as I am a knight, and a true English man, or euer haue hope to beholde my native Country, were they a thousand to my selfe alone, armed as I am, in the name of my God, and hope of my rightfull cause, I would assaile them. And so arming himselfe, chearing his Page, and his associates, hee mounted his horse, couching his staffe in his rest, he put forwards to meete the companie of robbing thieves, who was no sooner espied of them, but without word speaking most furiously they all assailed him, who were all so well resisted, and so eagerly encountred of the knight, as they had small cause to boast them of their gaintes. Euerie blow, with blow, redoubled this noble Brytaine on the robbers, doing such feates of honour and chivalrie, that it amazed them to see: but more terrified they were, that must of force abide his furie, who sparing not his strength, laide on them with such courage, crying Saint George, that after many sharpe alarms on either



part, many of them were sent to seek their passages in hell. Thus our noble knight encouraged with the hope of victorie, so behaved himselfe, that they were all well nere brought to end. The Captaine of which route, with foure others his confederates, being men of valour, and resolution, seeing the massacre of their companie, sought to reuenge their bloods with their greatest power. And enclosing him on each side, layde about them in such manner, that the Knight was by them greatly endangered. In this assault was his horse slaine, when fighting a foote, espying his best aduantage, he goyed their horses as they came, and gaue them that their mothers neuer prouided for them: yet in despite of what hee coulde doe, as the mightiest manie times hee forced to yeelde, fighting on the ground, and in the greatest danger of life. The Page which singled himselfe from the broyle, wherein hee lest the Casterling, bestirred him, whereby hee had leaue to breathe, and being somewhat refreshed, reaching violently one of the robbers by the legge, pulled him perforce from his horse, mounting himselfe thereon, and dashing out his maisters braines with his heeles.

The Knight nowe againe mounted, so bestirred him, in that the most brauest of them that liued, coulde well haue afforded to beene further off, but they which are bounde must obey. The game was nowe bidd, and they must needs see it. So long bidd and reuiued was it by the Knight, that not one was left to count the stake.

The broyle ended, and euerie act in this massacre performed, the Knight beholding these brauing hell-houndes, weltering in their blood, first thanking God for his fauour, in strengthening him in that distresse, resting himselfe after his wearie trauaile, hee disarmed himselfe, refreshing his wearie bodie for a time: which done, he hasteneth him vnto the place where they Gouverneur and his Ladie remained, whom in the companie of his beloued wife was comforted, whers with great ioy he was welcomed, to all his folowers, who with the Ladie, ceased not to pray for his good successe.

Thus

Thus leaue we this frolicke companie, ioying in the good fortunes of the Knight, who reposed him selfe with those friendes, untill the Gouverneur had recovered his full strength, to traualle, when leauing the desertes, they proceeded on theyr journey to the Citie of Ierusalem. In which traualle we leaue them, to shewe you the fortunes of the noble and vertuous Ladie Vallia, remaining with the Emperour in Rome.

## CHAP. XIX.

How the Lady Vallia, sorowing for the death of her father, trauelled with childe, and what then chanced her.



Nowe the time and place of the Historie seruethe vs to leaue the noble Edward and his companie, to let you heare of the vertuous Ladie Vallia, who traualing with womens ordinarie grieffe, had not long to looke of her time, wherein she expected an heyre to the worthy knight of the Crosse: which caused the Emperour to detain the heauie tidings of her fathers death from her. But as nouelties haue wings, and flie with the light breath of euerie tasting tongue: so this lamentable storie came vnto the eares of Vallia, who for her recreation and pleasure, walking in a Park adioyning to the Pallace, was encountred by a simple Souldiour, who hauing lost his limmes in seruice, awayted to impart his suite vnto the Emperour for reliefe.

With this Souldiour, the Ladie questioning what seruices hee had seene, as one that had knowledge of many honorable seruices done, but especially glad to heare of her Lord and husband, whose demands the Souldiour answered with much courage, not letting for his owne good to utter all: in which his speech, declaring the worthy conquest of Philip her

her father (where he was,) a suddaine feare so possess him, that his tongue with griefe denied further speech: which of the Lady being perceined, moued with pittie of his sorrow, enquired diligently what moued him on such a suddaine to stay his talke, beginning now the most delight, willing him to say on whatsoeuer he had: for sure she was, that nought but honourable should be said of her father, or her loue, who was with him in all those seruices.

This blunt companion recomforted by her honourable counsell, and good encouragement, seeing hee must vtter his hearts greefe, albeit hee had no thought or knowledge to whom he spake it, after some small pause, he said. Wardon me, gracious Ladie, for my heauie tidings, and account me no daftard for daring to speake, what is my hearts griefe, to vtter the subiect of my tragicall sounding sorrow, to all the hearers. For the losse of our noble generall, whose vntimely death hath caused such heauinesse and hearts discontent amongst all those of his gouernment, that will nener bee blotted from theyr mindes, so long as any one breatheth that did know him. The sorrowfull Ladie hearing these dolefull tidings of her fathers losse, could not answer his talke, nor had power to speake, but as one readie to leaue this life, presently fell in a fraunce to the ground, whome her græued attendants Alynda, and the rest, by their careful industrie reuiued againe, though with much extremitie. The poore souldiour which saw howe ill his talke was taken, brooked no longer stay in that place, doubting his Princes displeasure, but got him from the Citie with all speed.

Vallia her suddaine græfe baged her paines, that her Midwives were sent for, and with great perill of life, was not long after, delivered of two goodly Sonnes, whose sight, and other comfortable perswasions of the Emperour, and those Ladies that were about her, remooued a little her heauinesse, which shee most honourable endured to all theyr ioyes, for this good fortune of the Ladie, solemn Processions were made, Belles were rung, and Bonfires were plentifull,

plentifull throughout the Citie, with all other shewes and signes of gladnesse that might be deuised. But to whom so euer these two new borne Gentlemen was most welcome, there coulde none take moze pleasure in beholding them, then the Emperour, who woulde neuer haue anie time from his affaires of state, but the Purces were sure of his companie, to their ioy, and pleasures. In this offspring I leaue them, to recount the accidenis happening in Genoway.

## CHAP. XX.

Howe Albert Duke of Millaine, hearing of the death of Philip Duke of Genoway, supposing his Daughter to bee dead, made claime to the Segnorie, and what chaunced.



When the high commander of men, had by death taken from his Countrey the hope and comfort of this most louing and honourable Prince, Philip Albert, Duke of Millaine, swelling with ambition, to enlarge his gouernement, crossing Vallia to the hope of Philip, to be made first summo- ned the Vicegerent by his Herald, to a session, and the little he had, for their soueraigne, or abide the chaunces of warres, which with al the power, both of him and his friends, he would presently inflict vpon them.

This peremptorie message deliuered, the Vicegerent hauing care to his oath and promise made, summoned the Nobilitie, and gouernours of each port, within these confines, vnto whom hee recounteth the message receiued from the Millaine Duke, with all the large circumstances, declaring his title to be but vsurped, and desiring their aydes in the right of the Ladie Vallia, heire and lawfull inheritor of their late deceased Lozde, whome they should most highly weng, if dastardlie

collicke companie, ioying in  
 , who reposed him selfe with  
 heracour had recouered his full  
 having the desertes, they pro-  
 Littie of Ierusalem. In  
 , to shewe you the fortunes  
 Vallia, remaining with the

XIX.

ing for the death of her father,  
 that then chanced her.

time and place of the Hystorie  
 as to leaue the noble Edward  
 his companie, to let you heare of the  
 famous Ladie Vallia, who traailing  
 with womens ordinarie grieve, had not  
 ing to looke of her time, wherein she  
 expected in heere to the woorthie knight  
 of the Crosse: which caused the Empe-  
 rour to singes of her fathers death from  
 his house winged with the light  
 winged tongue: to this lamentable storie  
 of Vallia, who for her recreation and  
 in a Parks adioyning to the Pallace,  
 a simple Souldiour, who hauing lost  
 , sought to impart his suite vnto  
 her.

the Ladie questioning what ser-  
 uant had knowledge of many honou-  
 rably specially glad to heare of her Lord  
 the Souldiour answered with  
 his owne good to utter all: in  
 the woorthie conquest of Philip  
 her

her father (where he was,) a suddaine feare so possess him, that his tongue with griefe denied further speech: which of the Lady being perceiued, moued with pittie of his sorow, enquired diligently what moued him on such a suddaine to stay his talke, beginning now the most delight, willing him to say on whatsoeuer he had: for sure she was, that nought but honourable should be said of her father, or her loue, who was with him in all those seruices.

This blunt companion recomforted by her honourable counsell, and good encouragement, seeing hee must utter his hearts greefe, albeit hee had no thought or knowledge to whom he spake it, after some small pause, he said. Pardon me, gracious Ladie, for my heauie tidings, and account me no dastard for daring to speake, what is my hearts griefe, to utter the subiect of my tragicall sounding sorow, to all the hearers. For the losse of our noble generall, whose vntimely death hath caused such heauinesse and hearts discontent amongst all those of his gouernment, that will neuer bee blotted from their mindes, so long as any one breatheth that did know him. The sorrowfull Ladie hearing these dolefull tidings of her fathers losse, could not answer his talke, nor had power to speake, but as one readie to leaue this life, presently fell in a traunce to the ground, whome her greued attendants Alynda, and the rest, by their careful industrie reuiued againe, though with much extremitie. The poore souldiour which saw howe ill his talke was taken, brooked no longer stay in that place, doubting his Princes displeasure, but got him from the Citie with all speed.

Vallia her suddaine greefe byged her paines, that her Spidwines were sent for, and with great perill of life, was not long after, deliuered of two goodly Sonnes, whose sight, and other comfortable perswasions of the Emperour, and those Ladies that were about her, remooued a little her heauinesse, which shee most honourable endured to all their ioyes, for this good fortune of the Ladie, solemne Processions were made, Welles were rung, and Bonfires were plentifull,

plentifull throughout the Citie, with all other shewes and signes of gladnesse that might be deuised. But to whom so euer these two newe borne Gentlemen was most welcome, there coulde none take moze pleasure in beholding them, then the Emperour, who woulde neuer haue anie time from his affaires of state, but the Purces were sure of his companie, to their ioy, and pleasures. In this offspring I leaue them, to recount the accidents happening in Genoway.

## CHAP. XX.

Howe Albert Duke of Millaine, hearing of the death of Philip Duke of Genoway, supposing his Daughter to bee dead, made claime to the Segnorie, and what chaunced.



When the high commander of men, had by death taken from his Countrey the hope and comfort of this most louing and honourable Prince, Philip Albert, Duke of Millaine, swelling with ambition, to enlarge his gouernement, sending Vallia to the Duke of Genoway, and byge of Philip, to be next heire: first summoned the Vicegerent by his Herald, to accept of him, and the little he had, for their soueraigne, or abide the chaunces of warres, which with al the power, both of him and his friends, he woulde presently inflict vpon them.

This peremptorie message deliuered, the Vicegerent hauing care to his oath and promise made, summoned the Nobilitie, and gouernours of each port, within those confines, vnto whom hee recounteth the message receiued from the Millaine Duke, with all the large circumstances, declaring his title to be but vsurped, and desiring their aydes in the right of the Ladie Vallia, heire and lawfull inheritor of their late deceased Layde, whome they should most highly wrong, if dastardlie

they should intitle another in her right. Therefore my Lordes and louing friendes, (quoth the Gouvernour) shewe in main- teining the honour and right of this Ladie, your loue to her father, in which you gaine moze loue and honour, then to be in- uessed with title of great worth. For no greater blemish can be to the pryncle, then to bee feared a coward, especiallie in a cause of such honour as this. Therefore, if you will toyne with mee in full consent, esteeme his threates not worth a pinne, and prouide to giue him such a welcome, as is fitte for an enemye.

The Nobles and all estates there assembled, hearing the honourable resolution of the Gouvernour, with gene- rall consent lauding his magnanimitie, committed them- selues vnto him, promising on their honours, to main- taine with their bodies, goods, liues, and landes, whatsoeuer he resolved on.

This willingnesse with generall consent when the Go- uernour had seene and heard, first giuing them all hearty thanks for their honourable loue to their Princesse, and carefull re- gard of their common wealth, which they were all bounde by oath to the Church, as well as the signorie to maintaine. After some other speech, he caused the Malaine herauld to be brought before them, to whom he saith: Heralde, thy message from thy Lord so peremptorie sent, and by thee deliuered, with graue aduise of the whole state of our Province, we haue ad- uisedly considered. And finding by lawe, or natures right, hee hath no right nor iust interest in the same, wee haue determi- ned to denie his demaunde, and with our dearest blood will maintaine the lawfull issue of our late deceased Duke Phi- lip, whose honourable deserts can not bee so suddainlie woone out. Thou knowest what wee intende, if thy Lord bee friend to vs, and our state, wee will requite his loue with the like againe, if a foe, hee shall find that Philippes rightfull inheritour shall not bee wronged, so long as wee shall liue. And so finishing his speech, the Heralde thus replied.

Nobles.

Nobles of Genoway, whose grauntie is spoken of in all places, receyue not your selues by presumption. My Lord is puissant and mightie, and not to bee dared by them of farre greater and moze force then you: wherefore weighing your owne goodes, and welfare of your Countrey and state, con- sider with whome you are to deale, his honour, state, power, and what is to bee requyred in Spaiessie, bethinking what a friend hee is to his friendes, and what a ferroure to his enemies. In weighing all which I doubt not, but your gra- uitie and wisdom will alter these sonde resolutions, before you prouoke him to furie, least when you woulde submitte your selues, hee bee as farre of from hearing you, as you are peremptorie in refusing him. In your aunswere, consider your welfare, or subuersion. Therefore let not ouerbolnesse leade you to mischief: I speake as I wish, that you might prevent your owne mischieses.

The Gouvernour hearing the Heralde speake so much of submission, as though his Lordes countenance might terrifie and affright them, euen as Bugbeares do children, thus sayde.

Heralde, what weenest thou wez of the state of Ge- noway are, that thus thou menacest vs with thy maisters high actions, power, and friends? Is Albert become such a Bugge to feare his bordering neighbours? No, let him dare children and fooles, with his threates. If hee come as a friend, as hee did when our good Philip liued, he shall bee welcome: if otherwise, it is neither power, friendes, nor his valour wee esteeme. Our honour wee will maintaine in despite of his Beard, maugre all the friendes Spaine, or Ita- lie can affoord him. And so thou hast thy aunswere: replie no moze: for what wee say, we will perforce on our ho- nours, as thy Lord shall finde, when hee dares make triall.

The Heralde hauing his aunswere, like a Male-con- tent, dooing his dutie, departed. The Noble and states of Ge- noway, taking carefull order for the mustering of theyr



souldiers, and making force, that there enemy might not take them sleeping, but alwaies in readinesse, when occasion shoulde serue to defende themselves, and offende the enemy.

CHAP. XXI.

How the Herald returning his answer from the Genowaies, Albert puruaied his armies.



The Millaine Duke expecting his Herald's return, with the Genowaies offer of obedience, after long looking, arrived at the Court, to whom the Duke gave honorable welcomes, enquiring the answer to his Ambassage. To whom the Herald at large recounted the honorable resolution of the governour, who would not deliver their title of government to any stranger whatsoever, willing him to rest content, or abide what chance warre will alot him.

The Millaine Duke raging with furie, at this unexpected answer: vowed by no simple oathes to revenge him on the governour, whom he threatened with great afflictions, if hee prevailed: And having to see the event of his determinations, presently dispatcheth his Ambassage to Florence, the provost of Marcellus and Telone, and other his friends, for they ayd in this exploit, willing them to be ready by a day prefixed, at some port of his, to them best becoming good, and most easie for their conveyance. With these letters, the messengers being gone, great was the preparation made in his owne territories, of men, victuals and munition, whereof there wanted none, such as the Countrey yieldeth. Such was the hast and care of those unto whom the charge of those affaires were committed, that in short time, all things were provided in such good order as could be desired, their onely stay was, for their expected power, which

which accordingly was puruaied, some marching by lande, others with theyr provision by Sea, so that in short time they are all well met, at Millaine, where they made no long stay, but every man receiving his charge.

The companies appointed for the land, marched forwards in three battailes, the foremost of which, was led by the Duke of Florence, the hauward by the governour of Marcellus, and the Rereward, by the Duke of Millaine, who hadde under his conduct, all the horsemen, with the carriage and provision. For the Sea service, was appointed for to be Admirall, Alfonse Earle of Piemont, having under his charge of Gallies, Bregandines and Foylles, one hundred and fiftie sayles, warlike and well appoynted, with all needfull provision, having also under his charge, a number approued and Noble Captaines, trayned to the Sea, all carrying mindes of resolution to inuest theyr Noble Friends the Duke of Millaine, in his challenged Dukedome.

The Genowayes, whose provident care was to provide for their Countries safetie, was not ydle in all these times: but making ready what power they coulde, both of theyr owne, and such other friends as they coulde procure, relying on the Justice of their cause, and nought at all fearing the multitudes of theyr enemies, of whose numbers they were all aduertised by theyr owne Espies.

The carefull regarde of the Governour, hadde so wrought, that all things were ordered to his content, his friends, the Neapolitan Duke with his powers being come, and all others that they expect, theyr Gallies and shippes furnished, the conduct of each severall company was appoynted to men of worth and honourable resolution, who encamped themselves with wonderfull great pollye without the Cittie, even in the enemies cheere passage.

Their

Their power of shippes and gallies likewise appoynted at poynt deuice, a Councell was called, and the Admirall sworne in the open assemblie not to yeild, nor in any sort to discontinue the fight, but taking all aduantage, to do his best for theyr defence, and discomfiting of the enemye. This done, and the shippes halled forth, they harboured euery man being aboard, that they hadde charge of. They cheered theyr companie, exhorting them to valour and courage, not omitting often to recounte the right cause of defence, with the enemies entrucion, with all other perswasions that might tend to their encouragement, to the great comfort of al the companie, who with one voyce yelded signes of great ioy, boluing euerie one to the other, to liue conquerours, or die tenne thousande deaths, rather then incurre the odious name of coward.

Thus cheering themselves with hope of victorie, with a ringing peale of canons, that made the ayre rattle, and the earth to shake, they sette sayle, bidding theyr friendes a short farewell, who attending theyr enemies coming, we leaue them hauering at the sea for a time, till they meeete againe.

## CHAP. XXII.

Howe the two armies meeting at sea, the Millaine Duke with his power was discomfited.



These honourable Armies well appointed, both by lande and Sea, a generall expectation was made on both sides, for their meeting, wherein each one hoping for victorie, wished for to see the event of theyr fortunes (long looked for commeth at the last) and time hath

hath brought the two flottes in sight one of the other, which descried, all pollicie was wrought for the aduantage in the fight, wherein those gallants of Genoway shewed their best skill, keeping in despiight of the Millaine armie, the winde, and in great brauerie halled the enemies with their warlike musicke, in such sort, that the skyes resounding the echoes of theyr noyse, which was not vnaunswereed by the Millaine flote, made as gallant a shewe as the other, where some time was spent in tryumph betweene them, and the Gallies and shippes within shot, their prowess with great courage was discharged, and euerie man with such weapon as he used did his best.

Long time and much powder was spent on both sides, with much effusion of blood, eyther parte doubtfull of the victorie, which the Generall of the Genowayes perceiuing, halling his Viceadmirall, and the Admirall and Viceadmirall of each Squadrone, with a flagge of parley, they dyetue neare vnto him to heare what hee hadde to saye, who charged them vpon their allegiance, without anye moze forbearing or consuming of time, to boord withall speede euerie man as hee coulde haue aduantage, and so to make quicke and short tryall of their fortunes.

This counsell of the generall was welcome to euerie man, who were verie gladd and ioyfull of that commauement, which was that which they expected, for they attended but to see him, being aduised to follow his deceiuers. And thereupon forcing theyr Gallies by maine strength of Dares aboard, with great courage and valour they gaue this onset, in which was many feates of honour and armes atchieued, where many a man of worth left his life, or thers lost theyr limbes, and many spoyled and wounded to the death. The Gallies fired, and diuers sunke, all hazards that daye were with great perill escaped, after many bloudie strokes and much other mischief on both sides.

Ades, the houre of the victorie befell the Genowayes, who toke their Admirall gallie, slew their chieftaine, and burned and sunke many of the rest, such good successe followed their iust cause, that fewe of their enemies escaped without great hurt from the fight.

The fight ended, night approaching, a retreat by the Admirall was sounded, which done, a view was taken of the prisoners, and the gentlemen and commanders of the Millenaries, sent aboord the generall, for the rest order was given, that they should remaine aboord their severall gallies, which done, a generall laude was given to God for their victorie, and every one following the course of the Admirall, they made their way for Genoway, and in short time with the diligence of the Captives, and good encouragement of the commanders of each gallie, they had sight of their port, and not long after recovered the same, where their ioyes were increased by the sight of their friends happie returne, as by their solemne shewes of gladnes was manifest, to the great encouragement of al the adventurers, and increasing of the prisoners great græse, who made such sure account to triumph in their overthrowes, and like Lords to command ouer them, nowe to be subiect to their enemies. Thus their heauie sighes betwaying their sorrow, the generall of the flecte moued with pittie of their care, being a man very debonaire and kind, with a countenance full of pittie, his bonnet bayled, came vnto the caualleres, perswading them to comfort themselves, and to extend this vnerpected chance as one of fortunes bandies, whose inconstancie was not to be wondered at, for (quoth he) they that gaine to day, may lose to morrow, the fortunes of warres are difficil, a cleare conscience and a iust cause armeth men with courage, & they that fight in right are often fortunate. Our cause God hath righted, wch in your duke sought to wrong: he is the giuer of victorie, to whom bee all glorie. Yet gentlemen (quoth he) dismay not, neyther clogge your hearts with too much care of your bad fortunes, you are fallen into the hands of a kinde and most noble enemy, who will well intreate you, and for mine owne part, which am

at

at the Gouvernours command, I assure you, your ransomes shall be so easie as you shall like well of.

The Milleneres captiue hearing theyr kinde enemy use such wordes of comfort, where hee might menace with death and cruell reuenge, being at his mercie, with courtesie returned great thanks for his most friendly counsell and good perswasions, bowing themselves his obedient prisoners, neuer to departe, or offer any manner of discourtesie in worde or action, vntill they were lawfully licensed so to do. Which worde the Generall accepting, each man had free libertie within the Cittie, to goe at his or theyr pleasures.

## CHAP. XXIII.

How the Armies by land meeting, what happened them.



God sent the sea power of these Princes to trie first theyr fortunes, so not long after theyr armies approaching, the Millaine Duke being aduersed by his espialles of their readinesse, hearing of the ill successe of his flecte, loath to putte all on hazard without some more pause and resting his people which were verie sore wearied with theyr long and hard trauaile, for which cause, as well to consult with his leaders and copartners, he caused his Tents to bee pitcht, giuing good directions for sure watch to bee kept throughout the Campe: which done, and they hauing repoled themselves that night, the next day a parley by flagge was summoned, wherein euery man was heard, both for aduise in marshalling the Armie, as for policie in surpising the enemy, where in each mans opinion sayde, the Duke melancholike for his ill successe and losse of his flecte was so malcontent, that nothing might be said wherein he toke pleasure: yet gaue he leaue

¶

to

to euerie one to say his mind, which humours nothing contenting his nobility and such as were drawne thither by his cause, loath that his headstrong humours should dishonour them, the Ferrar Duke, as one that might be most bold with him, sayd. Cousin of Millaine, for your sake wee haue gathered bordering neighbours, maintaining no iust cause of our owne, but your intended quarrell, wherein if wee reape any dishonour, wee haue our deserts. Hedde by your counsell wee haue bene, as sheepe to bee slaine, and now hauing hadde a little crosse, till may you, that our people seeing your discomfort, may leaue us here in the midst of our enemies. It is dastardlike to feare in such a cause, and may breede all our euertow: wherefore resolve eyther to maintaine your honour, and with resolution finish what you determined before our coming from our owne homes, or on mine honour, I will drawe my forces againe to theyr owne habitation, and leaue you to your best fortunes: say therefore your intent, for wee may not heere long continue, the enemye being strong, and in their owne confines, where wee are strangers, assured of no fauour, but what wee can purchase with the sword.

The Millaine Duke hearing his cousin of Ferrara so plaine, thought best to make shewe of good content, whatsoeuer hee thought, wherefore without longer pausing, as one that in that extremitie desired some counsell, hee sayde. Most honourable cousin, pardon mee, that haue not shewed my selfe in this action as I ought, and consider the cause I haue of discontent, which hath made mee forgette my honourable good friendes: yet good Cousin, dishonour me not so much, to aduise me of cowardize, for ever my heart hath abhorred that odious fault: but what your pleasure is to attempt, I will performe, and thereon giuing his worde of honour. The Duke consented to his will, who gaue in charge the next morning euerie man with his companie to bee marching by the breake of day, that lying neare the enemye, they might by theyr seducing traites see what advantage there

there was to be gotten.

According to whose commaunde euerie thing was effected, and the companyes marched neare to the Cittie, within halfe a league where the Genowayes campe late, where they strongly enleoned themselves, and hauing taken three or foure dayes respite, wherewith theyr companie was well refreshed, a Herald was sent from the Governour of Genoway, to knowe the cause of their coming in armes, against the lawes of Christian Princes, to disturbe their peace, hauing no iust cause so to doe, commaunding him and his friendes, confederates, and followers, either to raise theyr campe and be gone, or prouide them to battell, and therein trie the event of eythers fortunes.

The Millaine Duke hauing attentively hearkened to the Heraulds message, mooued with choller at his brauing speech, without regarde of honour or lawe of armes, hadde like to haue beaten the Herald, but being perswaded by the Duke of Ferrara from so unhonourable a fact, he sayth. Herald, goo tell that usurping Governour of my right, that I am come to chastise his insolencie, and learne him to knowe his dutie to his leige Lords, neyther shall any one of his rebellious companions escape the furie of my wrath, without they come presently in submissiue manner, and acknowledge their fault and great offence committed against me, which if they refuse, by that time the sunne hath made h. r. recourse about the earth, I will mase him, and those sleeping cures his companions, in the plaine that lyeth Eastward from the cittie, so God say Amen. Therefore depart, my word shall be thy safe conduct for this tyme.

The Herald hauing his answer, without long stay hasteth to the campe, where unto the governour and his companions in armes, he recounted the Dukes resolute determination, willing him to prepare against the tyme appointed to

## A pleasant Historie of the

to meete him, wherewith the gouernour and the rest were all well pleased, committing theyr cause to God, and relying on theyr iust Title. And thus resolving to meete him at the time and place appoynted for the same, hee presently gaue order to dislodge his Campe, to drawe more neare the place by the Duke appoynted, sending his most expert men at armes to viewe the ground, for theyr best aduantage, which with great care was so accomplished, that the sunne nor enemy could not greatly annoy them. The Villaine Duke and his accomplies carefull of what they hadde in hande, slept no time, but with great care and regard, proceeded with theyr companies more neare the place appoynted, where all things framed by marshall discipline and good aduise of the Captaines, they expect a happie day of tryall.

Time that fauoureth all things, hath brought the appoynted day, in which the carefull leaders so busilie employed themselves, that all things were ordered in most honourable and decent manner, where no policie of eyther part was omitted for the aduantage: which doone, and the battailes readie to ioyne, a Herauld was sent from the Gouernour of Genoway, willing him before hee committed the iustice of his cause to the battaile, to call to minde the iustice of God, in deliuering his sea powers into their handes, wishing him not so much to dishonour his noble house and followers, to hazard all to fortune. If hee would accept this proffer, and confesse the wrong offered his estate and commons, hee would remit the iourney past, and giue him free leaue to passe in quiet through his countrey, if not, and hee preuailed, hee should finde in iustice what it is to disturbe the quiet gouernment of so peaceable an estate.

This message deliuered, the Duke fretting at the Gouernours kinde and courteous motion, sware by no small power, to acquite his pride, and learne him to knowe to his great greefe, what it is to moue his  
Princke

## Knight of the holy Crosse.

Prince to furie, and so with a short replie to his message, sent the Herauld away.

Scantly had the Herauld reconered the Pauillion of his Loyde, but a Brauado was made by the Ferara Duke, who was the first that began the fight, and was gallantly encountered with the Duke of Naples, who met him hand to hand, each knowing other by theyr colours. Betwene those Princes began a fierce and deadly fight, who singling themselves, both hoping of honour, so applied theyr forces one against the other, that it was doubtfull whether should haue the glorie of the day. Both of them by their prowlles giuing courage to their followers, betwene whome many hardie feates of armes were atchieued, the battell on both sides being very doubtfull. In this conflict, the two Dukes like Lyons, beare themselves, untill the Ferara Duke, with long continuance of the fight, fell from his horse, who was presently rescued by a Band of his owne companie, that in the parting, had like to haue slaine the Duke of Naples, if the Duke his enemy had not bene more honourably minded, that rescued from daunger by his frendes, hee left the feld that time. Night growing on them, a retreat was sounded on eyther part, and every man withdrew them to theyr Tents: in which battell, was taken many Prisoners, on eyther part, which by compromise of the Gouernours of both parts, was redelivered. Thus for a time we leaue them to their repose, and hopes of theyr good successe, to tell you of the Princesse Vallia.



How the two childre of the lady Vallia was solemnly christened, with other aduentures.



**H**e most renowned and noble minded Emperour, desiring to honour the Christning of the two children, had invited all the nobilitie and Princes neere bordering on his confines, to be witnesses of that solemnitie, appointing for that time, great triumphes to be performed: and for that purpose, caused challenges to be set up, against all cominers, to be maintained by his champions, the winners to haue rich rewards.

The day of solemnitie being come, many Princes and Noble personages assembled themselves to the Triumph, the Emperour in person, being Godfather to both the sonnes of the Knight of the holy Crosse: vnto whome, many rich presents were giuen, by sundry Princes, that honoured and loued theyr Father.

At these bankets, among many others which harkned of forrain nouelties, Alinda, busying her self to heare, & ouerheare strange tidings, heard two noble gentlemen discourse of the state of Genoway, recounting at large, the honorable demeanour of y<sup>e</sup> Gouernour thereof, & his successe, in their sea aduentures, with each particular chance, happening in these warres, which waited of Alinda, that needed no orateur to tell her tale, her tongue carrying a heauie waight, vntill shee had opportunitie to reueale the same vnto her Ladie: which shee sought, yet could not obtaine it, vntill late in the evening, when euerye Guest had withdrawne themselves to rest: when hauing time fit to her desire, shee beganne first in pleasant motions to feele the humour of her Ladys, whether pleasantly

or melancholie disposed, and finding her pleasant humour, shee laide. Madam, since the heauie tydings from Genoway, I haue not seene one pleasant motion possesse you, lette mee your olde seruant, interat this fauour at your hands, to saye, what you coulde well frame your feeble and vnable handes to doo, in defence of your olde rightfull inheritance of Genoway?

Alinda (quoth the Princes) thy fond prattle will neuer bee left, what moueth these suddaine motions, and recounting Genoway, say, what occasions are offered in those parts, I pray thee say:

Madame (quoth Alinda) your Ladiship alwaies is pleased to mistake me, and my simple meaning, what I intende herein, is nothing, you knowe I am none of those that seeke common: wealthes benefit, but say good Madam, that I were, as I am neuer like to bee, the rightfull heire to the Dukedome of Millaine, and should by violence seeke to vnrpe your right in your Dukedome by force, what drest you do for defence of your selfe and your people? Alinda (quoth the Princesse) seeing thou sayest thy talke begunne is in least, I will as heedlesly answer thy demands.

Suppose Alinda to be my enemye, and in Armes in my Countrey, spoyling my commons, and ruiating my Countrey, thou mightest well accuse mee of cowardise, if in Armes I should not meete thee, reuenging my iust cause on my enemye: for thus, and in this manner, would I chastice the Millaine Duke: laying good stroakes on the backe of her mayden, with a cudgell, which shee easily found. Which chastisement that shee could well beameane her self, turned in this maner. Madam, if to be Duke of Millaine, be so painefull, and that to a vsurper, there belong such punishment, lette them bee Dukes that list, Alinda will be her self as long as shee can. The good Duke of Millaine answered the Princesse, I am verie sorry that I shoulde so suddainlye vntyle your grace: but vpon some conditions, I will make your Hatellie recompence.

Madams

Madame quoth Alynda, promotion I feele is heauie, the name of Duke is imprinted I feare me in blacke and blew on my shoulders. But since they be badges of your Ladships colours, and your gift, in hope of better I must accept these. But may it please you to let me know your conditions, that liking thereof, I may deserue your reward. I marie Alinda (quoth the Princesse, but first sweare vnto me to answer iustly my demands, and then aske thy reward.

Alynda hearing the Princesse so pleasant, was loath to hinder her beguine myrth: but feeding her vaine, of put her from those dampes, said.

Madame, since it is your Ladships pleasure to bring me from a zealous prophesier, vsing no oath, but yea, yea, and nay, nay, cock and pye, & such like, to rend those creatures that God hath made, say by what you will haue me sweare, and I will perforce it.

How now Alinda (quoth the Princesse) where blowes the winde now: the Mone I dare gage my life is in some merrie corner, that hath brought thee to this conceited pleasures: but leauing all, tell me as thou tenderest my loue: What moued thee to name the Duke of Millaine: my minde presageth some vnerpected chance hath happened: my people by his meanes if they haue, and thou therewith acquainted, I sweare by that loue I beare my Lord Edward, neuer to forgive it thee, vntill thou reueale thy meaning therein, and tel me the truth of what thou hast heard.

The maiden hearing her test proue so contrarie, loath to offend her, which she honoured aboue all the creatures on the earth, thus said. Madame, I haue often heard it amongst the learned, obserued for a principle, not to least with superiours, dreading the mistaking of any simple meaning, wherof I might haue taken hade, but seeing my tongue hath bene so long hanged to vtter the hearts secrets, pardon what I haue to say, and I will hide nothing to satiffie your desire. When proceede (quoth the Princesse) and whatsoever thou sayest, I freely forgive it thee.

Alinda

Alynda, whom all intreaties might not parden from telling her minde, saide: This day the gracious Ladye, the banquet being now furnished, with many an honourable Guest, two gallaunt youtnes whose names I knowe not, questioning one with the other, of the state of Genoway, and of the Province thereof, returning lately from those confines, a tale of ioye, and much lamentations hee deliuered, which wroong many teares from my heart, at hearing thereof, it caused manye exceeding ioyes to possesse me. Yet disposed to crosse me (quoth the Princesse) leaue off I saye these fond delusions, and saye how both ioye and care at one entir time assayed thee.

Madame (quoth Alynda) when he deliuered the pride and incontinence of the Millaine Duke, telling first by intreatie to obtaine your eie in the Dukedome, by winning the regent to his will, who should when he should not rule, he raised a mightie power by sea, and almost by land, by joining with other Princes neere adioyning, to accomplish his will. The Duke discomfited by your Captaines, and they obtaining a most honourable victory, the Duke himselfe sojourned your confines, and hath fought a most honourable battell, each side doing their deuoyre, in such wise, as it was doubtfull whether hadde the best, and thus they lost them: and this hath bredde both my care and great ioye.

The Princes who tendered her native Countrey as her owne life, premeditating on her maidens speech, and redoubting each seuerall accident, many times wished her Lord present to chastice those blunders: beeing to reuenge those wrongs on Millaine, and all partakers: yet this in her womanish furie, reasonable meanes shee had none to make, without acquainting the Emperour therewith, which shee was verie loath to do: Yet beating her Braines, to finde out some shift, to behold the manner of their doings, shee was euer crossed by some other contrarie accident, which made her solitarie to abandon the companie of all people, onely her trustie ser-

uant

most excellent, who seeing her heavynesse, lamented her rashnesse in revealing those tydings, which yet renewed her sorowes.

CHAP. XXV.

Howe the honourable Princesse Vallia, performing her Church duties, after her trauaile, went disguised from Rome.



The Princesse which sought many means to attaine her desire, longing moze deeply to see the estate of her commons, then for any worldly benefite, and to yelde them comfort in theyr distresse. The time of her Churching being now finished, she bethought her selfe of one secret intent, which she would assuredly put in proue, if Alynda would thereunto giue her content, denising many waies how to acquaint the maiden with her purpose, yet fearing to discover the simple intent of her former purpose, who knowing her Alynda to bee of a most sharpe and ready witte, shee first by many circumstances bounde her to her secrets, which done shee said.

Alynda, in many extreames, thou hast bene my faithfull counsellour, and confessor of my secretes, from whome the deepest thoughts of my heart hath neuer bene hidde, and having founde thy loyalty, I doubt not the like at this time, which I will requite to thy content: to holde thee longer from what thou expectest to knowe, I haue since I hearde thee discourse the distresse of my poore subjects, bowed to OGD my Madam to see them, and to lend them all such helpe

helpe as my power will stretch vnto, enly so furthering my intent hererin, aduise mee what secret course to take, in which thou shalt highlye pleasure mee: But as thou lovest mee, stande not vppon any denials, or persuasions to withdraue mee from this determination, for whatioeuer betide of mee, I will execute what I haue heere intended.

Alynda which sawe her earnestnesse to perfoyme her will hererin: be sought her of pardone, her wittes being to simple, to giue readie aduise in a case so full of daunger. But Madame (quoth shee) that you shall knowe, my loue is as firme as euer it was, deuisse you the mean, and I wil doo my best to enact it, keeping your secrets if I dye for it.

Enough, my owne swete Alinda, I take thy worde, and on thy faith, charge thee presently to provide mee some trustie frende to accompanye mee, which art disguised in mans attyre, armed like a knight of the Emperours, will trauaile, my companion knowing nothing what I am: Wherefore saye to him, whome thou shalt appoint for my guide, I am thy Brother, that for some occasions of thy Ladies, is bounde for those parts of Italye, and on thy worde, assure him of a good rewarde for his paynt, to his verie good liking. But haste thee, for I can enioye no quiet content, untill I haue honourblye perfoymed my will.

Madame (quoth Alynda) this shift may goe as current as heretofore. But say god Madame, how shall I amends your absence when the Emperour shal enquire for you? Marrie this my Alynda, thou shalt giue it out amongst the Ladies of the Court, as well as amongst mine owne attendants, that I haue made a solenne vow, to fast certaine dayes: In which time, performing my other penance for my sinnes past, I will not bee seene or spoken vnto of any but your selfe: this shift I doubt not, but maye suffice.

Excellent my good Ladie, (quoth Alynda,) I see now a willing horse needs no spurre; God sende your Ladishippe well to prosper in your journey: for I neuer saw your wits so sharpened before.

But now for horses, where will you speede? Thy selfe, Alinda shall be my credit, thy honest woz shall be enraged to the maister of the Emperours Horse, for two such as shall be most excellent, if not mine owne assurance shall serue with him, to do thy owne adopted Brother any pleasure.

Believe mee Madame, I like your plat well, and doubt not, but that shal be as wel performed it. I have bethought mee of a proper Gentleman, a wooer of mine owne, in sooth he is: whome I will conure, of that loue he hath so often profess, to beare my Brother companie, and to provide him some good guide for his conduct: in any time, I will provide your furniture, which shall all be bought to your owne person.

What sayest thou Alinda: wilt thou name mee in buying for mee those needfull things? So Madame (quoth she) you mistake me, leave that to my charge, and remember you no more with these cares.

The plat being labo for the Princes iourney, Alynda so applyeth her selfe in puruaying each needfull thing, that manye dayes were not spent, before each necessarie was brought into the Princes lodging, and exquisitly fitted her, guides and other conforthe, to her owne verie good liking. Which being done, and the daye appointed for their departure, Alynda calling her friends before the Princesse, said,

Most gracious Ladie, lette your humble servant intreat your Ladiship to grace this friende a kinsman of mine, with your favourable countenance. And seeing I have made choise of him amongst all the gallants of this royall Court, I beseech you witnesse with mee, what trust I repose in him, that commit mine owne and onely brother to his guiding, in a journey

journey for my good, which hee vnderstaeth. Pong hee is, and not able to endure such harde trauaile, without some good guide: and sicknesse, incident to all men, may oppresse him: of which (my good Hortelious, for so was he named) take thou especiall regard, for that what thou doest to him, is done to my selfe, and as great shall thy thanks be in doing him pleasure. To morrow by that time the morning shall giue light at the gate, behinde these lodgings he shall attend you, where faile not to meete him, and me: and so for this time farewell.

This kinde louer which had no thought what seruice he vndertooke, was carefull of his charge, loath to be accounted negligent at this first entertainment, slept not untill he had all things in good sort readie. The Princesse minding her iourney, was all night, or the better part, in arming and providing her selfe, attending the coming of her trustie guard, who failed not his houre appoynted, where the Princesse accompanied with her Alynda, with him. And making small stay, taking their leave depart each of other, wee leaue them to their iourney, and Alynda to her sinister thoughts, how to beguile the Emperour in her Ladies absence, as hereafter you shall heare.

## CHAP. XXXI.

Howe the Emperour with great regarde of the infants good fortunes, caused a kin of Arte to calculate their natiuities.



The Emperour whose felicitie was in those noble children, of whome hee had more care then of an ordinarie friend, desirous to knowe what in their birthes was predestinate vnto them, sought manie wayes to attaine vnto his desire, and acquainted some of his friendes with his intent. After long care taking to attaine his desire, had intelligence of a reuerent Hermet,

which had his being on Alpes leading from Rome to Naples, whose Art was matchlesse in the Arte Mathematicke. Vnto this hermet he sent his trustie counsellor Anthonie Bulcatho, entreating him, (whom he might commaunde) to satisfie his pleasure herein sending, by him, the houre, day, and moneth, truly set downe of their natiuities.

Such haste made this noble man, that hee came vnto the Cell of the Hermet, whom hee kindly intreated to satisfie the Emperours pleasure herein, who loath to be drawne from his heauenly motions, could not a long time be perswaded to it. In the ende, so manie were the intreaties, and importunate suites of the noble Messenger, that he graunted his good will, promising by a certaine time to fulfill the Emperours suite, and by writing to satisfie him.

Anthonie hauing what he desired, returned the Emperour his answer, who spending the time in manie thoughts of his desires, toke no rest vntill he heard what the Hermet said. As time spendeth, so time brought the limited time to ende, of which the Emperour was carefull, when calling his Anthonie, he caused him to speede vnto the Hermet, where making no stay, posted about his businesse, and in happie time arrived at his Cell: where entring conference with the aged father, touching his questions, he receyued no wordes at all, whereof he might take any occasion of iudgement. But after some repast taken, he sayd.

Friendly Anthonie, whose paines hath bene such, to see my homely Cell, thanks for your paines, to my gracious Prince heartily commend me, and vnto him deliver these fewe lines, which shall import that small knowledge I can giue.

The noble man hauing receiued his message, woulde not make moze inquirie of ought, but taking his friendly farewell, hasteneth vnto the Court, of whose comming the Emperour was glad: who calling him into his Closet, enquired the newes he had. At which drawing his packet, signed with the Hermets signet, he deliued the same vnto his Galleie, who renting the scales, read the contents thereof following.

The

The Nobles borne within the stately Court,  
Mongst Princes great, shall beare a kingly port.  
The latter borne, a stranger hence shall steale,  
By whom great good shall chance thy comon weale.  
In armes with many matchlesse Princes he shal fight,  
Yet neuer be foylde by anie humane wight.  
Gods glorious name by power he shall aduance,  
And shall be knowne at length by happie chaunce.  
Who gaue him life, of him shall life receiue,  
Where he tooke life, there shall he life bereaue.  
In trauaile shall this worthie champion bide,  
Vntill this lucklesse fortune to him shall betide.  
Marrie he shall, with a most princelie wife,  
And end his daies in religious kinda of life.  
The Elder brother like a Lion fierce,  
The Pagans proude his prowes shall menace.  
The flying birds his parents shall bewray,  
And raging beast, shall vnto him obey.  
Most strange euent by him performe shall be,  
Myrrour of knight hood, and of chualrie.  
For ouer East to west, their honours shall be spred,  
And Romans through his might shall be magnified.

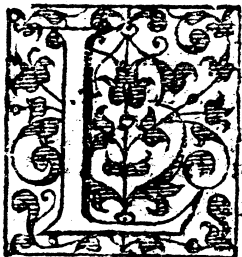
These darke and close couched lines, when the Emperour had read, and ouer-read many times, and could not conceiue the meaning therof, he was moze troubled in spirit then before. But when hee was warned, that the yonger should be bozne from him by a stranger, he tooke order that their nurces should bee in one of the chiefest foytresses about the Cittie, where hee vsually visited them: in whome hee tooke moze delight, then in anie thing, especiallie in Constantine the yonger, which bare his name, of whome his feare was most. The elder whom had to name Nartelions, hee was not so watchfull of, yet had he a fatherly care of both. In this great regard, and heedful care, these princes were seuen yeres within the foytresse of



A pleasant Funtone on the  
of the Cittie nourished. What after happened them, the Vi-  
sioe shall shew you as it cometh.

## CHAP. XXVI.

Howe the Princesse Vallia arriued at Genoway, and what  
happened her.



Long and wearie trauaile hath brought  
the Ladie in sight of Genoway. Be-  
fore she could reconer the Cittie, she was  
encountred by the Ambuscadoes of the  
Millaine Duke, who toke her prisoner,  
and brought her to the Dukes Pavil-  
lion. The Duke seeing so fayre and  
beautiful a face, questioned him (soz so we  
must teame her name) of whence hee was, and what af-  
fayres ledde him thither, whether hee came as a friend or an  
enemie. Vallia, whose here are not so like of readie answeres,  
seeing her selfe in the handes of him that would not willingly  
part with her, if he had knowledge of her, dissembling (as well  
she could) what she was, sayd. Noble Prince, the desire I haue  
to make triall of my manhood, hath brought me to thee, soz that  
I haue heard thy honours spoken of amongst many. A Gentle-  
man I am, desirous to see the manner of warre: and if thou  
purchasest it, the price of my seruice shall be imployed for thee.  
The Duke which noted her beautiful face, her kinde speech,  
and affable countenance, held her for nolesse then shee seemed.  
And without vsing any circumstances, gaue her entertainmet:  
appointing her a place nere his owne person: which kindnesse  
she verie gratefull accepted, returning many thanks for his  
honourable acceptance.

Not long had our yong warriour remained in the campe,  
whom in her attire we name Philipo, but a scallie was made  
by the Citizens, whose bittailles waring scant, would be gladlie  
seeke all possible meanes to be quit of their enemies.

The

Knight of the holy Crosse.

The larum in the campe giuen, all armed and in aray, Phi-  
lipo was not last, but mounted, in very comely and braue ma-  
ner demeaned hir selfe, venturing so farre in pursute of the ene-  
mie to the gates, that shee was with her guide taken prisoner,  
which the Millaine Duke seeing, commending the forward-  
nesse of his new entertained souldiour, sought to rescue hir. But  
his ayde came too late. So sooner was the Ladie within the  
Cittie, but carrying the shew of a Caudere, she had good enter-  
tainment, and well intreated. That night the Gouvernour  
with his commaunders being pleasantly delighted at supper,  
and euerie man recounting what seruice they had scene and  
done that day, the captaine whose prisoner she was, acquainted  
the Gouvernour what a prize he had that day gotten, leauing  
nothing vremembered that might honour her, whome he  
made reckoning would purchase him soze of crownes.

The Gouvernour on this report of the Captaine, was verie  
desirous to see this prisoner, yet soz that night made little recko-  
ning of it, in the morning early, his mind deuising of his nights  
resolution, accompanied with his best fricndes, toke his occasi-  
on to walke by the house of signiour Vincencio, where shee re-  
mained, with whom he questioned of sundrie occasions. After  
some frivulous spech, he enquired for the prisoner, who was pre-  
sently brought befoze him, whome he saluted verie kindly, re-  
quiring him to say of what reuntrey he was, and what name  
and parentage. Sir quoth Philipo, soz so lette her be remem-  
bred, what you are I know not, neither desire I to know, but  
haue heard that lawes of armes allow not euerie man to exa-  
mine, especially a gentleman. Therefore pardon me, soz with-  
out the gouernour or his speciall authoritie, I will not acquaint  
any with my estate, and so good sir quoth the rest satisfied. Syz  
quoth the gouernour, your peremptorie spech sheweth some  
great mind, which I pray God proue so happie for your hostes  
sake. If then I can entreate the gonernour to come or send for  
you, wil you vouchsafe to acquaint him with what I haue re-  
quired? True sir (quoth Philipo) you confirme my minde right,  
soz which I am beholding vnto you. You are verie pleasant

A

gentle

man (quoth the Gouverneur) which I wish to continue, & would gladly craue this fauour, that I might on mine owne authoritie demaund whether you know the gouernour, which you would see. Sir answered Philipo, the honourable gentleman yet I neuer saw, but in regard of his vertues and honourable commendations, I both loue and honour him.

Thankes (quoth the Gouverneur) for your good opinion and report of him which you hold an enemy, but happily may proue otherwise, for which, if any haue any thing to say, either in secret or otherwise, speake as a friend, I am the man, but wot this though I be of so honourable a place, wherefore if thou haue ought to speake, say boldly thy minde, for by the honour of that seate which I do now possesse, I will freely heare thee, and pardon whatsoeuer.

Philipo which saw how harshly she had demeaned her selfe, with a blushing countenance which might wel haue betwaped what she was, humbly besought him of pardon for her unwilling offence. professing by the honour of a souldiour, she had no knowledge of him, which the honourable gouernour believing and forgiving, she sayde. Noble minded Gouverneur, hearing of the wrongs offered you and your people, I craued pardon and leaue of my soueraigne the Emperour, to be partaker of your service, as well to right your iniurie offered you, as for the loue and dutie I owe this countrey where I had my being first, and iourneying hither, intending what I say, was suddenly surprised by the Ambassadors of the Millaine Duke, who taking me at aduantage, there was small resistance, but yielding me their prisoner, had entertainment of the Duke, who vsed mee most kindly, yet not content with his fauour, being enemy to your state, and heire of my late deceased Lord Duke Phillip, in the last service I willingly aduentured my selfe in that manner to come vnto you, and in signe of my loyalty and faith, though I be young and a stranger, whose credite yet is not requisite you should trust too farre in a time so dangerous, yet as I am a Gentleman (which title with my life I will for ever maintaine) bee ruled by mee,  
And

and doubt not the suddaine removing of your usurping enemy.

The Gouverneur listening to her long discourse, noted her modest countenance and courage in deliuering the same, yet holding it wisdom to haue better knowledge of any man, whom he should trust in a cause of such importance, thanked him for his proffer, craving respite for his resolution therein. And so after some other courteous speeches, giving his word to his host for his libertie, hee invited him to his lodging, where hee was feasted with great welcome, the gouernour delighting much in his companie and pleasant parley, which in their secret discourses, was for matters of state, touching the weale of her people, though the gouernours least suspect was of her, whose right hee gouerned. To her delight, being now in place of her most cheefest delight, we leaue her a time.

## CHAP. XXVII.

How Alinda taking care to keepe secret her Ladies absence, demeaned her selfe,



Lynda the trust of her Ladie, and the faithfull secret keeper of her mistresse, after shee hadde carefully provided all things, and scene her horsed to her iourney, beganne now to deuise in what a labyrinth of danger shee had wrapt her her selfe, if ought should betide her Lady, but well to auoyde her owne danger, and to free her Ladie of suspect, her subtile pate was not free from carefull studie, which way shee might best keepe her secrets close, imagining sometime one way, sometime another: at length a moze better presents it selfe to her memorie.

But standing in an extasie, holding it wisdomne not to be prouid: if occasion should serue, she gaue it out, that her Ladie bowing a long fall and secret, would not be seene or spoken to of her Alynda.

This plotte working effectually, Alynda orderly as she was accustomed, went to visite the childe, from whence she returning, she puruaid with her owne hand her diet, as for her Ladies seruice, and then attyng her selfe in her Ladies attyre, would shew her selfe. In this manner continued shee without suspect of her Ladies absence, until the Emperour pittying the Lady, doubting least her long solitarinesse should moue her to melancholy, and thereby some dangerous sicknesse might ensue, when hee hadde often solicited her by her seruant Alynda for the same, and receiued such answers by her as hee liked not, moued with a kinde desire to see her, hee vowed that if he left not her chamber by a tyme limited, passing the bondes of honour, he would violently breake the doores vppon her.

This wind of furie made Alyndas heart cold, fearing her Mistresses honour should not by absence bee questioned of, and her selfe without confession of her beeing where shee might not bee knowne, in danger of the Emperours displeasure, and losse of credite and life: to anoyde all which, many wayes shee deuised, yet none safe inough, as shee thought: but as women haue alwayes some shift, if it were to deceiue the Duell, so Alynda deuised this meane, vnto her Ladyes confessor. In a morning earlie shee went, where after her, many pretie questions and answers passed betweene them, Alynda to trye the constancie of this holy father, charged him on his holy orders, and by the reuerent zeale hee bore to religion, to say what hee would doo for her Ladie, in maintaining her honour and reputation.

The Frier who thought on no such matter as the subtile Alynda, willing to make a shewe of zeale and dutie, protested by all holy vowes, that whatsoeuer rested within his power,

power, he would gladly effect for her Ladyship, if the losse of life and credite depended thereon. This geare wrought little for Alyndas purpose, which she thus answered. Holy Father, well haue you said, in bowing your selfe the fauourer of a noble a Ladie, whose reputation and honour dependeth in your secrecie: which seeing your holie vowes ought to be heeld in regarde, both with God, and the world, I will reueale a matter most rare and strange vnto you, and craue your counsaile in the same.

My Ladie (holy Father hearing of the wrong offered the Gouverneur and state of Genoway, whose right the Duke dome is, inspired with courage, sprung from the loynes of a noble souldiour, and possessing the spirit of her louelie Lord, the knight of the holy Crosse, determining to trie her for worth in those warres, bound me by oath to her secreete intent, neuer for torture of death, or whatsoeuer punishment, to reueale her will, and noble determination therein: which done, and my vowes past, she intreated me to provide horse and armour for her with a guide. And so decking herselfe in the attyre of a man, onelie accompanied with a Gentleman of the Court, who knowing her but for my brother, are gone for Genoway, since whose departure, my care beeing great to keepe her credite, haue giuen it out, as well to the Emperour, as to all other, that my Ladie hath made a holy vowe, and obserueth a fast for certaine weekes, in which tyme shee will haue no conference, or be seene of anie, but my selfe. But the Emperour dreadding thoroowe her solitarinesse, some melancholike infirmitie, shoulde ensue, hath swozne, if shee come not a broode in a certaine time, to drawe her perforce into his companie.

To saluall all which, let me intreat you, by that promise you haue made, to morrow morning by that houre the Emperour doth usually walke about his priue garden, to come vnto the Court, where I will attend you, and be your guide to her chamber, where my selfe disguised in my Ladies apparell, will with you feigning great conference, shewe vs at the window

where we may see both faile of his excellencie. By which meanes, and your further persuasions to his Maestie, in telling him what vengeance he shall receive of God, in frustrating the holie vowes of arie religiously made, he may bee drawn from a devoted farre vntilving his honour, and vntil charitable) and so vntilving his honour, and vntil charitable)

Which woman, (quoth the confessor) thy faith to thy Ladie, I admire (as well I may) for as rare a matter is it to see a woman of such secrecie, as a million of blacke swannes. Why wordes hath wound me to execute thy will, what thou hast Comanded I will (God willing) performe. And I pray that our desires haue as good effect for thy Ladies honour, as thine heart wishes. In the morning expect mee, when God saying Amen, I will visit thee, vntill that time fare well.

Alynda seeing her wordes haue effect to her wish, returned him many thanks for his courtesies, promising large rewardes for his friendship: which done, committing him to his deuout seruices, she speedeth to her lodging, about her ordinarie affaires. Where we leaue her till fitter occasion of the

## CHAP. XXVIII.

Howe the feigned Philipo by good gouernment and behaviour, obtained the good wil of the Gouvernour, and what chanced her in the fight.



Philipo having a care of finishing her intended businesse, sought by all meanes to gaine the good will of the Gouvernour: so that leauing no occasion which was offered, he alwayes tooke opportunitie to moue the Gouvernour, by battell to trie the euent of their fortunes. But the Gouvernour having lost manie

of

of his companie, expecting some ayde from his friends, de- tracted the time, in such manner, as Philipo bearded with their lingring, and respecting her promise with Alynda, finding opportunitie, having the Gouvernour at convenient time and place to speake, thus she said.

Noble Gouvernour, if I might without suspect of villanie, or incurring your displeasure, boldy speake, I would then make offer of my simple seruice to your honour, and your peoples great good. The Gouvernour-whom affection had wounde to like him, would him to say what he would freely, he would heare him, and further his honest suites to his best power. Thanks, (noble Gentleman, quoth Philipo) seeing you bouchsafe me this fauour, I see and note the great dilresse of your people, and pitie them, for whose rescue from this captiuitie, and freedom from these enemies, I will adventure my bodie in single combate, to see my fortune with the best man at armes in that suspected campe, if you care on the goodnesse of your first quarrell, aduantage your right: or if to this, you, or that proude enemy will not condescend, by battell to ente the warres in this sort, give me leaue to trie by policie, what effect God will by his wisdom. The actions of men will do.

The Gouvernour musing at the resolution of Philipo, whose smooth face argued his young yeares, and whose humble and marshall discipline, would not defaile his reputation. But thanking him for his friendly proffer, recounted vnto him, the experience of warres the enemy had, being a manie stout Souldiours amongst them, so that his valour, waiting strength, was insufficient to encounter the worst of many hard dydes, and their policie not to present a. Per Gentleman, (quoth he,) that I may not shew any vngreatfullnesse to you, whose care and offer is such for our good, let mee heare your deuice, and as I like, we will accept or refuse it. Philipo, seeing her ill successe in her suite, besought the Gouvernour of pardon, vntill of his honour he bouchsafed to graunt him his suite.

The

The Governour seeing his willingness, and what discontent he had at his denial, and despairing of his good hap, hoping on God, which by the power of David, discomfited a more huge armie, granted his request. Whose wordes no sooner uttered, but hee might perceiue her hearts content by her cherefull countenance. After a small stay, little needing long premeditation, she sayd: Knowe (my good Lord) that during the time I remained in felds with the Duke, hauing an intent to do you and yours what good I best could, I gaue my studies to search the secrets of his campe, noting his whole order and maner in euerie thing, watching by night to see their obseruation, and waiching the day, to know their customes. In which times, I sawe how carelesly they demeaned themselves, wishing at some times your honour were acquainted with my thoughts: so with a small power might they haue beene surprised. In hope of which (good my Lord) gaue me leaue to chule vnto me, those whole yeares requite honour by their deserts, such Gentleman as I can intreate to accompanie mee, my selfe will giue the attempt, entering first the campe, like a fugitiue, hauing stolen from the Citie, pretending honourable loue to the Duke, whom I will with my signed talke to besot, as vntill heaue scape oppress him, he shall neuer be wearie to heare me which done, and euen one in the dead of their sleape, binding them fast, I will with my signet, commaunde the Officers of the watch to giue me the word, pretending the Dukes meaning to visit some watch secretly that night. These things falling so out by shewing a flouing Roach, I will giue notice to my companie, whom I will meet and vnto them deliver the word, which by small companies shall passe the courts of garde, vntill we come vnto the Dukes ciuitie lodging, where hauing some strength, we selfe (on my life) will undertake to bring the Duke prisoner and deliver him to your helpe, and Gods assistance your enemies.

Philippo, deuise (quoth the Governour) if it be as well performed, which God graunt, to thy indostrie (noble minded Gentleman) I commend this seruice, and will my selfe reposing

ling ouer thy loyaltie: be readie at giuing the signe, with five hundred of my trustiest frendes to ayde thee, the honoꝛ whereof, shall be Philippoes, if we preuaile, then proceed when thou shalt best please.

Philippo, hauing his desire, and the gouerners good consent, attyred like a common souldiour, at setting the watch, issued the Citie, commending the successe of his seruice to God: far had he not gone from the Citie, but taken by the enemies Espyalls, he craued access to the Duke, vnto whom after they had risled him, they brought him. So sone came hee to the presence of the Duke, but prostrating himselfe at his fete, hee sayth. Most noble Lord, and my dread soueraigne, pardon thy humble seruant, who by my ouerboldnesse, desirous to gaine your gracious loue, so farre aduentured in pursuit of thy enemies: What being past resceto, and the enemies number lesse, my strength fayling mee, with the losse of much blood issuing from my woundes, I was in haplesse time, taken Prisoner, where I haue there euer since remained, vntill this time: I then slaying my keeper, taking his apparell and furniture, I thus escaped theyr surye, who for my harsh speeches, bled in defending your noble reputation, was doomed to be shot to death by the souldiours. The Duke glad to see his safe returne with life, for whome he had great care, giuing him heartie thanks for his good loue, and dangerous aduenturing for him, and in his seruice, gaue him a chayne of golde from his necke: commanding his Maister of the wardrop, to sute him presentlye in a rich sute which hee appointed: which done, seating him by his side, accompanied with the cheefest of his men at Armes, and nobilitie, hee discoursed vnto him much matter to theyr lyking: touching the miserie of the towne, assuring them on his life, befoze many daies were ended, the commons in despite of the Governour wold yelde themselves, if in time he and his accomplices sought not his highnesse fauour. With these pleasing speeches, & often caroling betwene the, at finishing of each storie, the night was well spent, Philippo for his welcome, was lodged on a pallet



in the Dukes Tent: which done, and euery man at his quiet, the Court of garde about the Tent, being halfe a sleape, as one that regarded his honour with the gouernoz, seeing all sound, serched the Dukes pocket, where finding the signet, he issued out the Tent, commaunding the Captaine of his guard to send him the word, so that disguised, hee would walke that night about the Campe.

The Captaines seeing the Dukes signet, gaue him the word, which obtained, about his other businesse he goeth, effecting all things as he wished. The Duke being fast, thrusting out his torch at the Tent doze, as though the Duke intended to visit the Ferrara Duke, which lay not farre off, he fained speeche with the garde, vntill he thought the Gouernozs espyalls had scene the signe: When making no longer stay, with a Holbart on his neck, taking his way towards the Citie, he past with the word without any molesting. The Gouernoz which had hope in his champion, slept not his time, but with his horse, and many other a foote, attended the comming of Philipppo, to direct them, which made all possible haste, and in good time to all their comforts, met the Gouernour: Vnto whom he briefly deliuered what was done, beseeching him to let his footemen passe, by small companies, to a place by him assigned, whither he would conduct them, and at the allarome giuen, to make halt with his horsemen to their rescue. The Gouernour hauing good hope of successe, commending his pollicie and resolution, appointed his men by him to be led, straightly charging them to be gouerned by him, who giuing them the word, marched on to a side of a small hill, close on the backe side: the Dukes tent where they stayed, vntill they guide Philipppo had appointed them what to do.

Philipppo, applying his businesse, bringing the companie close to the Tent, hauing the Duke fast bound, wrapped him in his night gowne, accompanied with two or three good fellows more of his crewe, with they weapons drawne, drew him from his naked bed: with which awaking, and perceiuing them strangers which were about him, he would haue cryed

out

out for helpe, which Philipppo perceiuing, thrust his gloues into his mouth, swearing by all holinesse, that if hee spake anye worde, he should presently haue his passport, to hell, which was the habitation of such vsurpers: Wherefore willed him, as hee tendered his life, to bee silent, and his bodye should haue no harme, which to do, hee was enforced: Taking what they would with patience, having him within they power, they cutte the cordes of the Tent, and pulled him out vnderneath, bestowing him at they owne pleasures: that done, leaving him in safe keeping, they gaue the allarome, killing and slaying without mercie. To whose ayde, came the watchfull Gouernour, who with his power, did such feates of Armes, that the whole Armie was discomfited, some fledde, but most slaine. The Dukes with the principall were taken prisoners, with many others, which were deliuered presently. But the Duke with his complices, hee sent vnto the Cittie, to take better assurance of his loyaltie.

Thus the pollicie of Philipppo preuayling, and those wordes of they riches and prouision, which they hoped to haue made they Captiues, the Gouernour sent vnto the Towne, the happie successe of they services, marching himselfe by easie paces, doing Philipppo all the honour hee could. Who being mounted on a beautifull Jenet of Spaine, led the two Dukes his prisoners.

The happie tydings of this honourable victoie suddainlye spread throughout the Cittie: great was the tryumphing they made, where no solemnitie was left there vneffected for honour of the same, euery one lauding the pollicie of Philipppo, and dooing him all the honour that might bee deuised.

To the exceeding græfe and heartes discontent of the Dukes, who blaming they light credence of a stranger, whome they neuer sawe before in thier liues, would on his wordes, uttered of purpose to serue his owne turne, admitte him to such fauour and trust: but after warnings comes too late. They are now to bee vsed at the

pleasure of the Gouvernour, vnto whom Philippo became an earnest suitor, for their courteous entertainment, and honorable blage.

The Gouvernour, whose honour was increased by the industry of Philippo, imbrasing him in his Armes, committed the whole estate of those Princes and Nobles, vnto his direction: by whom he solemnely vowed to be gouerned, for which, as one that could demean himselfe to all estates like himselfe, he returned many heartie thanks, and accepted his kind proffer.

CHAP. XXIX.

How Philippo gaue the sentence on the vsurping dukes, and the honour done at his departure.



Philippo, praying God for his prosperous successe, reioyseth nowe to see Linda her Alinda, whome she greatly feared might encurre some daunger, by her long absence: to auoide which, she besought the gouernour of licence to departe: pretending businesse of great importance. To whose sute, although willingly he would haue condescended, yet with earnest intreatie and loue hee bare him, he besought him to stave with him, promising on the fayth and honour of a Gentleman, as himselfe, hee shoulde participate in all liuing Land and goods, which hee had, or should euer haue. For which Philippo rendered many heartie thanks, but might not bee intreated: for which the gouernour, as well as many other his followers, and freendes, were heartily sorie, surceasing their bootelesse sutes, least they importunitie might breed offence, yet they besought him, to accept the ransome of the prisoners which were to bee disposed by him.

When Philippo saw the honorable minds of those his frends, which

which hee had good cause to loue, for maintaining his right, and euerie way discharging the honourable parte of a trustie subiect, loath that so great fauours should go unrecompensed, hee first on their alleagance to the rightfull heire of the Dukedome, charged them streightly to fulfill what he should giue in charge, being no disparagement to their honours and estate, to which they willingly agreed, confirming by oath what he had set downe, and then saide. In performance of the words you haue giuen, this shall you do, before the moneth is fully expired, you shall in person repaire vnto Rome, where before the imperiall maiestie of my soueraigne Lord the Emperour, you shall present these Dukes your prisoners, where I will recount your honourable deserts, and deserued commendations, that your Princesse Vallia may reward your honourable service. Till when, honourable Gouvernour, weare this ring, by which you shall finde me, if you forget the name of Philippo. Which said, and the ring deliuered, the gouernour wondering at the grauitie and noble minde of the resolute gentleman, overcome with his noble proffer, could not tell what way to recompence the least of his deserts, but rendering him many thanks, besought him in the most humble manner, to acknowledge their duties to their soueraigne Ladie Vallia, whose seruants they vowed them in all loyaltie. These conditions agreed vpon, and euerie thing with consent finished, the time appointed for Philippos departure, a band of souldiours were appointed for his conuay to Rome, the captaine of which companie, hauing great charge for his honourable blage, vnto whom ten thousand crownes was deliuered at their leaue taking of him. The time of his departure being come, Philippo taking a solemne farewell of the Dukes of Millaine and Ferrara, with the other noble prisoners, the gouernour with the most noblest of the countrey, conducted him on his iourney, of whom when they took their leaues, many teares were shed: such was the sorrow for his departure. Whome they had no knowledge of. Whom after many lethy farewells, wee leaue to his iourney, accompanied with his guard and the gouernours, to merite

CHAP. XXX.

How Philippo arrived in Rome, and what chanced Alinda.



**D**e Gouverneur hauing lost our noble Philippo, there needed none to hasten him, whose thoughts was of his Alinda, whom he had engaged for his returne. As time worketh many effects, so long trauell hath brought this noble ladie within one dayes iourney of the Citie, her long desired place of rest, when calling the captain and his companions, hee discharged them from their further trauaile, largely rewarding them for their paines: where the Captaine was loath to leaue her, before hee had seene her in safetie in the Cittie: but when no perswasions might serue but they must needs leaue her, the Captaine making readie the gold, presented it vnto her, desiring her to accept it as the gift of his louing friends of Genoway.

Philippo wondering at the bountie of the Gouverneur, gaue them many thanks, but no entreatie might cause him to touch one penny, the Captaine on his part loth to offende the, Gouverneur againe to returne it, protested by his honour in armes, and faith of a souldiour, to leaue it to his disposition. Which oathes Philippo was not willing he should violate, but measuring his honourable minde, receiued the Golde, the one halfe of which, he freely imparted amongst the Souldiours, who accepted it without deniall, with many thanks, the other halfe betwene the Captaine and his guide he equally shared, vnto whom yelding many thanks  
for

for his bountie, taking their leaues, they left him on his way for Rome, and they returned for Genoway.

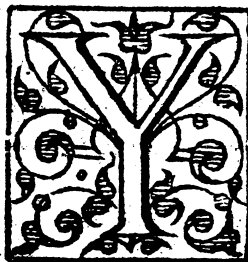
The time of her expected returne was now neare expired, wherein Alynda was to proue her wittes yet againe as shee had doone: whose cunning by the good helpe of the frater, took such effect, that the Emperour by his godly counsell was reclaimed from his intended purpose, although the Princesses absence wrought his great disquiet, yet patienting himselfe, hee was content with hearing of her good health, for which hee diligently enquired euerie day of Alynda, whome to quiet from further care or discontent, Vallia arrived at Rome, and taking her lodging in an Ostria, sent her guyde to the court in secret, to giue notice to Alynda of her returne, willing her in the euening to meete her at the place where they last parted.

This tydings to Alynda was welcome, who was not a little comforted with that newes of her Ladys good successe, for which giuing **G D D** thanks for his fauour, and keeping and preserving her in her iourney, shee aduaynted with diligence the good holure of her Ladys home returne, where giuing her attendance, shee hadde not long layed before shee hadde sight of her, the most welcome of the worlde. What ioy at theyr meeting there was, with theyr sundrie discourses, I omitte, untill in quiet content shee was placed in her lodging, from whence after shee hadde discharged her guide, shee was not long absent, where beeing with her secret Alynda all alone, shee questioned her of all the chaunces that hadde happened since her departure from thence. Which answered, Alynda forgatte not to tell her the perplexed estate wherein shee was at the Emperours woordes, menacing her to see her Ladys, no occasions whatsoever to preuent him: with the pollicie shee vsed, and ayde of her confessor. At which discourse the Princess might not forbear heartily to laugh. What other prattle happened, imagine you Gentlemen, that  
are

are acquainted with woovers merrie matings, to let you heare more of Edward and his companie, what in their iourney happened them.

## CHAP. XXVII.

Howe Edward accompanied with the Gouvernour of the Rodes, and his Ladie hauing performed their ryttes in the holy land, returned home, and what chanced.



**Y**ou haue heard gentiles of the recouerie of the gouernour of the Rodes, by the noble knight of the Crosse, who gathering strength and some ease of his wounds, by the knight his good recure, arrived at y<sup>e</sup> holy Citie, where they made their stay, doing such religious ceremonies, as to solued traualers appertaineth: where their welcome was great for the knights loue, whose honour they wished for the service done, in defence of the holy Citie. After the gouernour was well recovered, and all things to their content finished, the knight desirous to see his Ladie whom he neuer heard off since their parting, causing their companie to be ready to depart, and their attendants to puruay them of victuals, for provision passing the mountaines: which done, taking they leave of the high priests, and the chiefe of all the citie, who conducted them on theyr way, they traualled without any aduventure, vntill they came to the Cittie of Aleppo, where they stayed to refresh themselves. In this Citie, there was resident certaine Spanish marchants, who envying the good countenance of the knight, and the loue was made him by the viceroy there, moued with reuenge of his counte generall, slaine by the knight of the Crosse, after their returne from the wars, seeking many wayes to intrappe him, and finding no cause or meane to accuse him of any ill, whereby to procure his trouble, hee comforted with his Janesaries, who were appointed to

to wait on him by some pollicie to do him to death, promising great rewardes for his paines. Thy fact being committed, these hell-hounds whom no conscience moued to remorse, in hope of gaine, undertooke the action. And vnder shewe of kinnesse and zeale to him that was a knight at Armes, intruded themselves into his companie, admitting him to many banquetts, the better to worke their willes on him, seeking opportunitie to slay him, taking their occasion to quarrell for pledging a carrous: which the knight refusing, a sturre began betwene them, where he receiued many iniuries, and some woundes, before hee offered any offence: when the multitude growing about him, and he vnarmed, winding his Mantle about his arme, he rest from one of the Turks his semitarie, with which he made such way, that they helde themselves most happiest, that were farthest off.

The rumour of which broyle, was noyled throught the Citie, that thither they came from all parts, to take parts, and to be beholders of the sight. In which, after many deepe wounds giuen, and many of the vngouerned Janesaries sent to hell, when he could make no more resistance, compelled by the heat of the place, and wearinesse of the fight, he yielded himselfe vnto the handes of the Iwaie, chiefe Judge of the Citie, who promised him to bee his warrant from all men, that no danger should betide him: on which promise he deliuerd his weapon. The Spanish Marchant, whom they called Guido, standing on his house top to beholde this tumult, hoped well that the knight had bin slaine, but it proued contrarie, at which he stemed greatly, but more grieued to pay his promised summes, which for his life hee durst not denie, fearing the Janesaries should haue slaine himselfe. Which seconde græfe, caused the traiterous Spaniard to sake his further trouble, byging these Janesaries, to lay vnto the knights charge, matters of treason in the state of the Cittie, thereby to cut him off by lawe, which hee, nor the best Cauileres of his Countrey, durst out looke in the face, in anie sort to attempt ought against him of force.

These Janefaries suborned by large gifts, wrought others to take part with them, who were neere the Viceroy, and the Cato: which vpon their reports summoned the Knight to their iudgement hall, from the prison where hee lay chayned, vnto whome matter of great vnt ruth was objected, concerning the state, which hee stoutlie denied. But those Currees, which had solde his life for money, stoyming that hee had fauour to speake, offered to sweare by theyr holie Alcaron, that he with the rest of his confederates, vlewing the Citie in theyr secrete walkes, had taken notice of theyr forces, inqurying by circumstances, of such as they accompanied with, what numbers of men they had, and howe with vittailles they were relieved. These accusations so vehemently vttered agaynst him, the Viceroy coulde not but examine: and finding him guiltie of the same by theyr false iudgement, sentence of death shoulde with all seueritie passe agaynst him.

The Knight seeing his cause dangerous, putting his hope on him that neuer left him comfortlesse, with a bolde vndaunted spirite, and as one that feared not their threates, knowing death was the worst, thus sayd. Reuerend fathers, Judges of mens causes, you haue here by your lawes condemned an innocent man to death, for no cause iustly offered, but falsely and vnt ruthie by enuie, and of your owne imaginations, wrought agaynst me. First, by force they pretending loue vnto mee, in that place where they gaue mee vittailles, they sought to take my life from mee. Their intended purposes that way failing, standing on mine one safetie and defence, they haue here falsely accused mee of matter neuer thought on by me. But say (patrones of iustice and honour) that I should haue vlewed your forces, what may one naked man do, where are thousands of brare and gallant souldiours? If your wisdom would but in iustice list the cause, you should then find the wrong offered mee, that am here a stranger amongst you: from whom I appeale to the Grand Seigniorie for iustice, or being a souldiour and a man at Armes, in your

Citie

Citie, which are most men at Armes, let mee in combat trie mine innocencie. If to neither of these my lawfull suites you do agree, the worlde which heares of your vnjust dealing with mee, will scorne your lawes, and to your greate reproche, to report your wrongs done a gentleman and a souldier.

The King which was a Runnagatho, an Easterling bozne, and was not to learne the Christian lawes, and good nurture, hearing his resonable request, saide hee spake reason, and called before his accusers, vnto whom he said. Contrimen and fellows, you haue here on your wordes, brought a Christian and souldier to iudgement, whom our lawes hath condemned by your reports, whether of truth, or in reuenge of some of those who lost their liues in the broile begun by you amongst your selues, we cannot say: but as I am appointed your gouernour, and expressly charged by his Imperiall maiestie, whose authoritie I beare, to vse iustice to all men without fauour: in which, I hope I haue hitherto bozne an equall hande, neither sparing my friends, nor fauouring my enemies: so in this case, you must vse what law of Armes requireth. Wherefore this is my sentence, which if you be souldiers, and your cause iust, you may not denie, that you shoo his accusers, shall in single combat (according to the lawes of our land) maintain your accusation by fight: for which, appoint your selues agaynst to morrow, or reuoke your wordes before the whole assemblie.

The Janefaries, who least looked for this fauor to be shewed a Christian, moued some other of their friends to bge against him the slaughter of those souldiers by him murdered, & iustice to proceed for breaking the peace in their citie, being the principal fort of the land, against the law of Armes: which the knight thus answered. Your grace hath heard y malice of those people, whose intent, if they may haue their wils, is my life, of which if your grace consider, that what I did was in mine own defence and safetie of my life, hauing receiued sundry woundes, which are yet to be seene, before I offered any one a blow: if a woyme hauing no fence, will turne being troden on, worthy of blame may not that man be, which will defende his life, who once lost can neuer be recalled,



The king interrupting his speech, turning him to the accusers, said: You are to maintaine your euidence, attend your limited time, or confesse your accusation false: which saide, hee committed the gard of the prisoner vnto a Captaine, to see him forth somming at the time appointed.

CHAP. XXXII.

How the Ianesaries loath to maintaine the fight, laboured the Spaniard to buy his libertie.



The faint-hearted Villaines, who had seene the feates of Armes done by the knight, doubting their force, which was farre vnable to encounter a man of such worth and experience in Armes, fearing by theyr foyle euer to bee dishonoured, perswaded the Spanish Guido, in friendship to make offer of loue vnto the knight, who being a Christian, for a summe of money might deliuer him, threatening him, if hee wrought not some meanes for to free them from the combatte, they would discover his pretended euill, and cause him for his treason loose his heade. The Spaniard vered at the heart, to see his businesse take no better effect, perswaded himselfe of two euils to chosse the least: without any moze pause taking, accompanied with others of his confederates in the action, sleeping no time, came to the knight of the holy Crosse, whom with great shew of kindnesse, and many curtellies he saluted, feining great sorrow for the wrong offered, perswading him to patience, for that there was no right to bee expected, from them, who sold their lawes, liues, and what soeuer for money. And (quoth the traitorous Spaniard) where such gouernment is, accursed is the land, but moze accursed the people: wherefore (quoth he) if you will be ruled by me, that am a Christian, and bound in conscience to relieue every man professing God, much moze a man of such esteeme as your self, which with your life hath maintained

his honour in many places, doing good to all people in distresse. Stand not on any thought of your being, or what you haue bin, but considering where you are, rather yeeld your self vnto their fauour for money: without further triall or danger, I will undertake to buy your libertie. The (noble English man) prefer not money before your life: for being here, if you preuaile against your accusers, yet shall you euer go in danger of secret enemies which will not bee satisfied before they haue your life. I speake as a friend, whose welfare I esteeme. Wherefore with wilbome censure of your god, by being counselled, or your peril by being too headstrong: if you accept of my profer, I will take order for your libertie, without any charge of yours: which don, you shall presently be transported to Valencia, a famous citie of Spaine, my ship being readie fraughted for that place, attending but a fayre wind. The knight whiche during his long preambulation, had considered of his speech, he was perswaded he spake but truth, yet could not iudge his secret intent, which made him that hee thought not of any euill to bee pretended by him that professed conscience and christianitie, making this account, that he were better howsoeuer, to be with Christians, then in the hands of such reprobates, being but a money matter, which by his friends, wheresoever he became, might shortly be proued. Wherefore, with many kind courtesies returning hartie thanks to his traitorous friend, he sayd. Kind friend, whose friendship offered I knowe not howe to merit, albeit my conscience perswadeth me I shall prosper well in the combatte, assuring my selfe on God, who protecteth his people, yet in regarde of these my followers heere present, as for my libertie, I accept your offer, which I will requite, causing the mightiest Prince of Christendome to rewarde thee with thanks, and my selfe with large summes, to satisfie thy debt: wherefore if you intende what you say, speede about it, that I may know to what euent our friendship will sort.

The Spaniard glad to heare his purposed determination grow to so good a passe, imbracing him, like a seconde Iudas, whom he sought to betray, besought him, not to disaray in any

thing, for all the goodes he had were at his disposing. And so for that time taking his solemne farewell, he left the knight to manie conceited thoughts of his newe professed friend, himselfe speeding to finde the traiterous Janesaries, who were as faine of his good successe in his businesse, longing to heare what would become of it, whether the knight cetermined to trie the cause by fight, or otherwise by friendship ende it, as the next Chapter shall shew you.

CHAP. XXXIII.

How the traiterous Spaniard Guido, compounded with the Bashaw for the Knights libertie, with his departure towards Spaine, and what then chanced.



Never was the tidings of pardon more welcome to the condemned prisoner, expecting death, then this good consent of Edward to Guido, who trauielling in care as the painefull woman labouring with child byrth, was in a moment freed from that painfull extacie. Where with joy neare overcome, his tongue bewraying his hearts content, making small stay, but Iudas like (as a Spaniard practising treason) taking his farewell, hee looketh not behinde him, untill hee came to the lodging of the Janesaries, unto whome he came not before he was long looked for: who resting in a quandarie, was as fearefull to trie their accusation by fight, as the Spaniard to abide the hazarde thereof, who noting Guidos guiltfull countenance, their guiltie mindes gan presage some good euent. Seeing mette, as you heare, imagine Gentiles, whether there were anie questions left vndermaunded of the Spaniard, touching his late accomplished businesse, which might tend to their welfare, or that the knight intended ought which might breede their discredite. Of all which, when the Spaniard had at large resol-

ued them, recounting from poynt to poynt each severall accident chauncing betwene the knight and him, with what curtesie he offered peace and friendship unto him, whose death he most desired, cloking his villainie with such shewes of loue and friendship of Chistianitie, they all laughing for great ioy at the Knights simplicitie, and the traitours knauerie, spent the time frolicking together, untill the next morning, where in their quaffing & drunken discourses, a matter of more perill for the knight was plotted betwene them: whose heart being free from all guile, had not the least suspect of what was intended against him, as you shall heare hereafter. Where the Historie recounteth it, and returne now to the Janesaries: who drunken with delight of their glad tydings, wished long for the sight of that ioyfull day to ende all their doubts, which no sooner appeared, but the Janesaries loath to be preuented in what they intended, speedeth them first unto their commander the Calo, and unto him deliuered the Spaniards suite, and the Bashaw which was for the deliuerance of the knight for ransome, beguiling the simplicitie of the Calo, with the earnest suit of the Spaniard for him. And offering their good consents, so that therewith contented, omitting nothing which might giue liking, or gaine the good will of those they sought, to theyr wish. All which reportes of them made, was so liked by Guido, that the Calo, moued partly with pitie of the knight, and more with gaine of the Croloones offered for his freedome and libertie, calling for his companie, speedeth unto the Bashaw, whome he found preparing himselfe with all his knauerie to beholde the euent of those Combatters, who seeing the speedie coming of the Calo, thought verily that they had bene already attending for his presence, and beganne earnestlie to enquire the cause of his suddaine coming so earlie.

The Calo which was wise and experienced, as befitted his authority, besought the Bashaw to withdraw him from the companie when he would deliuer what he had to say. Which done, and they all alone, Calo deliuered each particular which the

Janesaries

Janesaries and Spaniards had mooued him with all, with his opinion in the same, al tending to that those traitours desired: and the knights libertie, of all which when they had aduisedly considered, although they could well haue given their consent to haue ended all matters, yet for fashion sake, they called the rest of their counsell, who hearing the matter, stood not long on tearmes, but called for the Spaniard, demanding whether the motion wer made by the knight, or of any other of good wil towards him: which Guydo affirmed to come from the knight, and besought him of fauour therein, vndertaking to pay the raunsome, whatsoeuer they would inflict vpon him.

At hearing of the Spaniards large proffer, silence was againe proclaimed, and the Spaniard dismissed, betwene them agreeing on the summe, and dayes of payment which they rated him: but howsoeuer the Spaniard must not forsake his word, least hee pay the price of the raunsome with his head.

This done, and the articles by them set downe, which the Spaniard must confirme, hee was againe called, vnto whom the Bashaw sayde. Signio? Guydo, those goods parts and discrete carriage of your selfe euer since your comming amongst vs, we haue diligently noted, as your selfe in all your businesse haue founde moze then all other strangers, and as for soze, so nowe in this motion you haue made for the releefe of this Christian, whome although our lawes haue condemned for a fact not to bee tollerated in anie, yet at thy earnest request, and motion of those his aduersaries, it is concluded, that for his libertie you pay tenne thousand crownes, the one halfe instantly, and the other at your next returne of shipping from your countrey: which done, and hee deliuered, you shall auarrant his departure with his companions: the first saye winde to carrie your shipping hence, or otherwise on his longer stay to be againe apprehended, and iudged as before, to endure the penaltie of death, as alreadie without further triall. To these conditions if thou agree, prepare thy money, and say the Combat, which must otherwise presently procede.

The

The Spaniard which had all that hee expected, hauing his life and possession of him whom he hated decay, humbly thanking the Bashaw for their fauour, thought the price was high which he was for his pretended treasons was inioyned to paye, setting a counterfeite ioy on his graued heart, he departed to his lodging, where, by his owne store, and his Countrey mens ayde, he furnished the same, which he presently paid, and had the Prisoner deliuered, whom he most kindly intreated, feasting and ioying with him, so long as he remained with him, how vile soeuer he intended hee shoulde bee vsed at his departure. In which time, came the ship, as I haue alreadie tolde you, stayed of purpose for his deliuerance, to carrie him from thence. Whereof, how glad soeuer the knight and his company was to bee freed from the daungers of those helhoundes, yet was his erchaunge little amended, as you shall hereafter knowe further. Dwell no we here resteth to shewe you his imbarquing from thence, what successe his hadde, and of his Trayterous vsage at Sea, by Guydoes commaund, you must a while pardon, to heare of the Arriual of the Governour of Genowaye, with the rest of his Nobilitie at Rome.

CHAP.



CHAP. XXXIIII.

How the Gouvernor of Genoway holding his word with the counterfeit Knight arrived in Rome, and of theyr entertainment.



**L** is here remembred, that Vallia in her knights attyre, after she had by her pollicy and valour freed her commons and countrey from the tyrannie of the Dukes of Florence, as you haue heard, inioyned by solemne oath, the Gouvernor and the pheres of the Countrey, to appeare before the Emperour, who in the behalfe of the Princesse Vallia should requite their faithfull trust.

The Gouvernour regarding his honour, but moze his oath, when he had settled all things in good sort, he paide his owne sculdours, and richly rewarded his foraine frendes, with the spoyle of his enemies, to euery mans good content, hauing perauied a rich and most sumptuous frayne to accompanie him: taking good order for the state and welfare of his commons, attended with the chæfest Lords and gentles of the countrey, he left the Cittie and by easie iournies, passed on the way to Rome beguiling the wearinesse of theyr iourney with sundry pastimes and sports, untill they came by long and diligent trauaile to drawe towards the Cittie, when by theyr messengers, they aduertised the Emperour of theyr comming: vnto whome they all were most heartily welcome, as was manifest by the fauourable and kinde entertainment of theyr rydings byinger: Whome the Emperour most honourably feasted, dooing him all the honour that coulde bee deuised. With this newes, the Emperour could not bee quiet untill he

hee hadde aduertised the Princesse Vallia with the same: Who knowing better then the Emperour, the onely cause of theyr comming, settled a shewe of much gladnesse at the hearing thereof: then questioning the occasions that brought them thither, wherewith the Emperour was nothing acquainted.

The Emperour when he had imparted his newes to the Princesse, summoning his state, and principall of his most honourable counsell, gaue straight charge, for the royall entertainment of those states, in the most honourable and best sort that might bee deuised: taking the like order, that all things with such company as hee appointed should bee ready. The next morning by rising of the Sunne, they were hoysed so meete those noble straungers on the way, which accordinglye was done in the most gallantest order that euer coulde be deuised.

This done, sending theyr cutreres before to giue notice of theyr neare approaching, they left the Cittie, ryding neere, untill the sonne had brought the mid day to an ende. At which time, the first intelligencer gaue worde, they had discryed them within tenne miles: and so as on their iourney they drew neere, they were euer aduertised, as time byingeth the matters of most moment to ende, so these states had ende of theyr desires, time and trauaile byingeth both companies, in viewe one of the other, to their great delights: at which enter-viue a pleasure it was to beholde the youthfull troupe of nobles and gentles, how gallantly they demeaned themselves, doing many byaue and commendable feates on their horses, on both sides deseruing such praise as was admirable. In this sort doing theyr kinde courtesies they passe by eyther compaignie, untill the gouvernour meete the Emperour: When prostrating himselfe on his knee, hee drew neere the Emperour offering to kisse his syrope: which in no wise the most courteous Emperour woulde suffer, but taking him with great loue and honour from the grounde, led him often

times heartlie welcome to these confines, which shewes of loue, the Gouvernour and his people very well accepted, in such manner, as the ioy thereof enforced them to shedde many teares.

This done, and every souldier and Gentleman haue don the like, enquiring the principall of the Gouvernours trayne they equally matched themselves, and passed on theyr way, discoursing very louingly of many pleasant matters, vntill they came to a Castle of the Emperours, called Forte Vencencio: Where that night they were most royally feasted, with all delicacye. The next daye, after theyr repast taken for theyr breakfast, they left that place, proceeding on to the ende of their wearie iourney, ryding so long, and with such pleasure, that they had sight of that Citty. The situation whereof, they admyred to behold, with the beautie of Churches, and state of the houses, of honour: but that which most pleased theyr delights, was to beholde the most beautifull Riuer Tybres from whose flowing streames, so many pleasant Creekes were filled, and whereon floated so many huge ships, of enestimable worth, and whereon shewed the Emperours flote of Gallies, who seeming to be environed with the assailing entrees, most pleasantly, and full of warlike pollicies, laye battering one the other, with their ordinaunces, and as the aduantage was offered, here they entred, and tooke them others they fired: and the Conquerours triumphing, brought the others alwaye Captiue, after the manner of the Sea.

So soner hadde this pleasaunt sight left theyr labour, wherein euerie one toke great pleasure, passing on thereof discoursing, every man speaking his opinion of the honourable sight, and commending the manner of the same, and good performance of the leaders, when suddainlye Ambushed on a greene side, where they were assailed by a companie of souldiers, which came to giue them welcome in like sort: from this Ambuscado, discharged they their ordinaunce, and after issued, brauelie assailing the horsemen, who so

dainly

dainly were encountred by another companie, which in like manner first played on them with their field ordinance, and after spent some time in shewing their agilitie and nimblenesse in discharging their shots, doing many notable and commendable feates of armes, to the great ioy and chering of their wearied spirits. That pastime in like manner ended, the souldiers casting themselves by their captaines commandement into warlike rings, marching close to the stirrup of the Emperour, and the Gouvernour, discharging their peeces in their march with great cunning, they bidde the strangers all heartily welcome, who with great content and courtesie, returned them all most heartie thanks.

This shew with excellent commendations of all beholders performed, the souldiers marching with their colours displaid, conducted the Emperour and his troupe to the cite, where with other solemne shewes they were by the senate and states, as well abbots as other of authoritie, both spirituall and tempozal, as for the vulgar sort, whose cries and voyces of ioy might wel perswade those strangers for whose sake they were assembled, to be all welcome to them, as to their Soueraigne. In this content they arrived at the royall court of the Emperour, where their Princesse Valia accompanied with a traine of beautifull Ladies, gaue them many heartie welcomes: vnto whom in all humble acknowledging their loyes and duties, by their shewes of obedience, they were all conducted to their severall lodgings, royally feasted by the Emperour and his nobilitie, during their stay in the cite, of which you shall heare more as it shall be required: leauing them to their pastimes & severall discourses of their common weale, and state of their countreyes, with the princes: to tell you further of the knight, and his hard entertainment at the sea.



## CHAP. XXXV.

Howe the Master of the shippe, by the commandement of Guydo their Marchant, chained and imprisoned the knight, and what chanced him,



As it hath beene in the former history declared of the knights departure to the sea, where they had not long bene, and they from the shore scanty loosing sight of the shippe, but the master which had his lesson before, calling vppon his companie together, willed them to follow him into the cabine, and there to shaine the knight, which hee sayde hee must doe so: his and their securitie. The companie, whose loue the knights courtship hadde generally gained, bearing this intended euill against him, who wished them all well, beganne to perswade the master from this intent, which would not heare them, but prosecuted his will, although to his great cost, as it after happened, so: the master whome no perswasions might enduce from his rigour, hauing the chaine in his hand, entred the cabine, with him other officers of the shippe, and without saying any word vnto him, violently layde handes vpon him.

The knight wondering to see this vnerpected wrong offered him, who suspected no such matter, and not knowing their pretence, force perforce grasped with the Maister, and wrynging his chaine out of his hands, gaue him so soze a blow on the head, as his braine was therewith besprinkled, and hee lay gaping so: that which hee neuer more obtained. The boate swayne and some others of the cheefe, who were acquainted with the treason, seeing they Maister shaine, assaulted the knight, intending with great tyranny

to reuenge his death, and to make him fall as they hadde promised: but too easie a reckoning made they, so: he was more of account then millions of the slaues, as with theyr limbes they were compelled to witnesse, so: when the knight who took them all so: friendes, saue their intents of euill, and could imagine no cause, defending himselfe, hee so manfully bare him, that to the diuell hee sent them all to accompanie him.

When hee had made way in the cabine, and cleared himselfe of those that there assailed him, taking one of their weapons, hee rushed violently out vpon the rest, who fledde like sheepe from a dogge: such was the power of an Englishman in multitudes of Spaniards.

By this time the Page and the knight of the Roades who by trecherie was clapped vppon in a cabine, hadde made way so: themselves, and with such weapons as they coulde gette, was come vnto him, who noting the timorousnesse of the base villaines, sayde. Unfaithfull Spaniards, more brut then beasts, more cruell to Christianitie then the enemies of Christ: what wrong haue I offered you, that thus you goe about to bereaue mee of life, whome I loued so dearely: But seeing you base gromes (quoth hee) thus haue without cause mooued my patience; I will not leaue one mothers sonne of you all aliue, to declare your haplesse tragedyes, vlesse you acknowledge your guiltinesse, and timely recount vnto mee the originall of this mischiefe, which doo, and saue your liues, or otherwise prepare your selues to follow those traytours that lie before you.

The poore Harriners which were as soze so: the wrong which was offered as himselfe, greeued, humbling themselves at his secte, besought him of pardon, and not to impute the blame of theyr Maisters crime vnto them, so: quoth they, we are his hirelings, vnaacquainted with anie intended euill against you whom we all hono: and was glad of,

if our master had any such charge by the Marchants, or otherwise had any motion of his owne free will to offende you, that is altogether unknowne. To shew our innocencie herein, behold his sonne that lately commanded vs, him before your eyes will we with all crueltie intreate, thereby to find the occasion if we can. And then taking the boy they stripped him, and tying him to the breech of a peece, with cords, whipped him, to make him confesse what the cause was of the wrong offered by his father to the knight. But for any crueltie they could shewe, he would not confesse neither his fathers intent in the action, or where the Marchants letters were bestowed, where with the knight was satisfied, and commanded them to rest satisfied: but they which were well vnto the boyes subtiltie, threatened him with death, without hee confessed what they had required, which obstinately he euer refused, vntill a bold and mercilesse villaine, which in despight of the boy, more then of trust to the knight, heating oyle, boyling hot, bedropped his naked skinned therewith, which tormented the poore boy no longer able to endure, kneeling, cryed out for mercie to the knight, and hee would not onely deliuer the letters, but his armour and weapons, so that his life might be saued. At which words, the knight commanded them to cease their crueltie, promising on his word of honour, that no man should doo him wrong, but hee would protect him, so that he performed what he had promised, and thereon ceasing their punishment at the knights commandement, they expected now to be satisfied from him, what should cleare them from all iealous doubts, wherein the knight helde them, for his harsh and bad entertainment, which made them hasten the boy to his businesse, vrging him to that talke which he was verie loth to be drawne vnto, but perforce compelled vnto it, he caused the knight to defende the holde of the ship, where inclosed in a huge dyfat, he found his armour & all other his habiliments, and furniture for his bodys defence, in which a packet of letters was inclosed, directed to an honourable person, neare allyed to the Spaniard slaine long before, and master to this Guido, his last hatefull enemy. The sight of al  
which,

which so moued the knight to pleasure, that forgetting all other occasions, or minding his Pocket, he ioyed onely in possessing his armes, causing the boy to be freed from his bondes, and with good store of crownes rewarded him.

Now Gentles is to bee remembred, the carefull loue of the Knights Page, who seeing his masters small regard of those Letters, closely conueyed them into his Pocket, without acquainting any man with them, longing to knowe the contents, yet loath to make theyr secretes knowne to anie man.

In this Labozynth of discontent rested the Page two dayes, and more, being verie desirous to knowe the effect of those lines. At last at oportunitie being offered by one of the companie, who in the watch singling the Page, which was euer wakefull for his Knights welfare, he besought the Page of fauour in commending an earnest suite hee had to his master, which himselfe durst not viter. To which the Page willingly agreed, on such conditions as hee bound him vnto. One of the Articles of which was, that hee should saythfullie reade, and interpret vnto him truly, either in Italian or French, which the boy best vnderstode, the true effect of those Letters: And hauing read them saythfullie, with great secrecie to conceale them without reuealing the least word, syllable, or letter therein contained.

This done, and his solempne oath for perfoymaunce made by all holy rites that Spaniards vse to sweare, hee brake the scales, and read the contents of the chiefest, touching our matter, and the knights occasion of further trouble.

To the mightie and most honoured Knight Don Philiberto,  
Duke of Medina, Lord high commaunder of the forces of  
the most Catholike King of Spaine, in all his warres, king-  
domes, Ilands, and al other his territories, and one of the knights  
of the holie Citie of Rhodes.

**M**ost mightie Prince, carrying a longing desire to doo  
your highnesse seruice, and many waies bending my  
studious affairs for some matter of acceptance, to your  
excellencie. It happened in this citie of *Alexandria*, to arriue  
this English homicide, a fugitiue from his Country, who ma-  
king no conscience of murther, killed that most renowned  
Generall your Nephew at *Rome*, after the last warres of the  
Christian Princes against the Souldan *Don*

Whose death, to my harts great grieve I write, I haue often  
seene your highnesse with teares to lament, and our most fa-  
mous king bewaile, of whose blood none could euer yet suffi-  
ciently be reuenged, albeit, there hath sundry attempts bin  
giuen: whereof with aduice and good regard, considering,  
finding him in the Citie of the Turks, where I now remaine,  
as well to requite the wrongs done to that noble Prince by  
him slaine, as to shewe my dutie to your excellencie, I  
first practised with large expence of crownes to accuse him  
of treason to the state here, and by suborning two periured  
Ianefaries, maintained the action, for which hee had iudge-  
ment of death by their lawes: yet by the Bashaw, and other  
chiefe ministers, he had grant of combat against the Ianefar-  
ies, in triall of his innocencie, wherein the Ianefaries quailed  
in courage, though I offered great summes for their perfor-  
mance: but they dreading the euent, or stricken with feare  
of his puissance, who shewed himselfe at the time of his ap-  
prehension, more like a diuell then a man, deoing manie  
to death, would not by anie offers of Crownes be wooone  
to continue what they had begunne, but enforced mee with  
threates, in such manner, that fearing mine owne life, if

my

my pretence should haue beene knowne, I faigned a shewe  
of most kinde Christian loue vnto the English churle, and  
woonne him by my protestations, to become a sutor to the  
Bashaw, for raunsome to redeeme him, aduising him as a  
friend that wished him well, how deeply soeuer in my heart  
(for the causes aboue remembred) I hated him deadly: all  
which my faigned friendship: he accepted for currant, and I  
gained his good liking to compound for his ransome which  
I haue paid, amounting to the sum of ten thousand crownes.  
And for prooffe of my loialtie to your excellencie, and dutie  
to your noble house, make him my present vnto your high-  
nesse, with his page and other associates, his armor, weapons,  
and what he else here had, not doubting but your excellency  
will acquit your roiall blood by him traitorlike shed, or sa-  
tisfie you and them by his death, in most extremitie, or in his  
wretched endlesse slauerie, which all the race of your noble  
house heartily required. And so resting a faithfull suppliant  
to your familie, and whole alie, and a hatefull enemy to all  
of that diuinish nation, of which he is descended, I comit your  
excellencie to your honorable wil, and cruel torment of this  
hatefull English wretch. From *Alexandria in Assyria*,

Your highnesse in all truth and loyaltie:

Guydo Fredericano.

The Page, whose heart burned with extreame grieve to  
heare these conspiracies against his Lord, and was assured  
hereby, that all their troubles proceeded from that canker of  
humanitie, a traitorous Spaniard, their most supposed friend,  
poysoning forth teares like riuers, which restrained his tongues  
libertie of speech, after hee had a while bethought him on this  
wretched Guydo, enuying against that Uppier, and his Pa-  
tion, he sayde.

Treacherous and most execrable homicide, scoyne of men,  
and monster of Chyrtianitie, which under shewe of trueth  
hast

hast hatched such damnable treason, Villaine that thou art, in place where all them that prolesse God is hated, and where loue of Christ and Christians should be most holilie regarded, there to conspire the death, defame, and subuersion of a man so honourable and famous as this most noble and well deserving Knight: for which (peruiced wretch as thou art) Gods vengeance shall sufficiently requite it, and all those thy abettors and fauourits in this stratagem, false and dissimbling Spaniard. And thou my most renowned maister, princely Lord Edward, howe simple wast thou in crediting so lightly a slave of no more worth then this vilde miscreant, harbouring in thy simple breast the serpent that sought thy life, not like a man in anie valorous manner, but like a Spaniard, by treason and subornation of perjurie, for money, buying and selling him, whose worth is more worth then Spaine, and all whatsoeuer is resident within the territories of that accursed Nation. But why spende I time exclaiming on thee and them that sought my Lordes life, and acquaint not his honour with those practises of this slave borne Spaniard, this Judas that betrayed the life of this so renowned Knight, that hee knowing the treasons conspired agaynst him, may first on these Villaines of that crewe and cursed fellowship, bee extremely reuenged, and after on all those Vipers, till hee hath rooted from the earth all such as carrie but the name of Spaniardes: so shoulde the broode and spring of treason bee pulled vpp by the roote, and those aspiring enemies, which seeke by treachery to invade Kingdomes, and by coynce to draue subiectes duties from theyr Soueraignes, buying Kinges and Countreyes for money, be layde open to their cursed and diuelish practises: from whose deceptes, fayre promises, and high conspiring treasons, God keepe euerie English heart, confounde in his wrath all those practises they intend agaynst the state, and commons of my blessed and peaceable Countrey England. Whilist he was in his inuertue agaynst Spaine and Spaniards, the Knight whome regards of his welfare kept from sleepe, hearing all quiet

abroad,

abroad, and the night calme and sayre, left his loathsome Cabine to take the ayre, and comming vnatwares by the Page, heard the conclusion of his long perambulation: with which he desired to be acquainted. But the Page on the sabbaine being taken, though he would, could not colour with any sheld those practises. But drawing those letters, whose contents he so lately had knowledge off, besought his Lord with very earnest sute to peruse them, and as he found, so to take heede howe or any Englishman hereafter, trust any trayterous Spaniard. The Knight musing what moued the Page to these humours, retyed againe to his Cabine, calling for a light: read their contents, which moued his patience, and cloyed him with melancholie, to which we leaue him.

CHAP. XXXVI.

How the Gouvernour and Nobles of Genoway, in triumph before the Emperour had knowledge of their Champion Don Philippo, and what chanced.



I hath been recounted, of the honourable entertainment of the gouernour and his company, with the honours done them by the Emperour, who in fauour of the Princess Alinda, graced them with all the kindnesse and honoz that might extend to strangers and the subiects of his beloued friend: These noble strangers renowned in the Court, passing the time with all honourable pastimes, night and day, which could be deuised. Many waies by their own fauourers and followers, they diligently enquired of their champion Philippo, as well to thanke him for his seruice, imployed for their good, and freeing them from their enemies, as to grace him with the Emperour, by their good reports of his desert, which albeit they had often acquainted the Emperour with

with all, yet was not that sufficient recompence as they thought, for a man of such worth, and his desert. His strangeness of the knight caused many doubts to arise among them, for that hee had ioynd them on their honours to make theyr apperance before his Emperiall maiestie, and he absent, whom they with such louing desire wished to see. But if they grew perplexed thereat, iudge the Emperours discontent, who measuring all honourable actions, especially the forward aduenturing souldiour, was more moued at his silence and concealing himselfe then the rest, and the more for that his seruice in a time of such daunger and hazard of the whole seignorie, hadde for his friends benefit and good of the whole Dukedome, bene so employed, that amongst his cogitations and thoughts of discontent, ioyed in hearing the honourable aduentures of the knight, so largely recounted.

Resting thus in an extasse, often moued to melancholie, through the knights absence, whom he more desired to know, then to enjoy great riches, the nobles and hee in their secret conference many wayes deuised howe they might attaine what they so earnestly wished, in the ende, after manie imaginations howe to effect their purpose, the Emperour being verily perswaded hee was not of his Court, that hadde for honour of his excellencie fauoured him with Title of one of his Knights, for that by their description hee coude enquire none such, to bee resident in the Cittie, or might for any enquirie finde any hope of, neuer knowing him, yet as the desirous minde louing to effect his purpose, leaueth no way vnsearched, howe hard or unlikely soeuer.

The Emperour bethought him to proclaime a generall challenge at armes, appoynting great prizes for them that best deserued them, believing verily that if hee were either in his Court or his regiment, hee coude not beeing a man at Armes, holde himselfe in secret from a place where honour was to bee gayned: Whereof the whole estate concluding, Heraulds were dispatched to all Cities within the empire, procla-

ming very diligently the triumph which was to be holden before the Emperour, at tilt, turney and barriers, with their generall prizes.

Alinda which had often conference with the nobles of her countrey, took great pleasure to heare them discourse the honour of the knight, which although she could better acquaint them with, yet to shewe a minde of honour, shee wished to know him, to the ende she might reward him: but all in vaine, the time was not come vntill shee pleased to reueale her selfe.

The time spending limited by proclamation, for those that intended to shewe their forces, and gaine honour, brought from all places Princes and Nobles of great account, euery one like themselves, desiring the Emperours grace, spared no charge, as well in sumptuous furnishing their retinew, as in their excellent deuises, and shewe of rare and incomparable wealth, which greatly pleased the Emperour to beholde, who longed for the day wherein he might see the issue of this deuise, and ende of his hope in knowing the knight.

The princeesse Vallia, whose head was not idle, deuising what she might best do for her honour, and satisfying the Emperour and those nobles who loued and honoured her in her melancholy dumps, called vnto her Alynda her trustie seruant, and to her disclosed the great desire of the nobles and the Emperour to meete the knight, which had with such hono<sup>r</sup> behaued him in their wars, earnestly intreating her, as before in many erigents, now she would bethinke her how she might in the assemblie shew her selfe, and escape unknowne. Alinda which was not vnacquainted with the princeesses conditions, felt her presently, and bethinking howe desirous shee was to shewe the noblenesse of her minde, took that charge vpon her, assuring the Princeesse that if shee would bee ruled by her, shee woulde neuer satisfie her minde herein, and against the time, though it were but short, furnish her with all things necessarie to her content: at which content of  
her



her Alynda, without whome she was not her selfe, embracing her, and after soz ioy kissing her cheekes, shee gaue her manie thanks, and many bountifull promises of reward, which was as much as Alinda required, whose care was wholly to winne and maintaine the Princesse's loue vnto her, as by her dutifull loue and seruice was euer shewen.

## CHAP. XXXVII.

How the Princesse, by Alindaes helpe, was furnished like a Knight at armes.



Now followeth gentles that I recount vnto you, the care and great regard of Alinda for the Princesse, who bled such diligence, that against the prefixed time of turney, the princesse was puruaide of all needfull things, horse, armour, lance, and curule, fitting the most accomplished knight in those confines.

The princesse seeing all thing so exquisite puruaide, highly in her heart commended her trustie sernaunt, whose kinde-nesse and loue shee valued of more extreme then all the treasures the earth can affoord, contemplating some time on the woozthinesse of a faithfull friende, and the deliuerance of a seruauit: shee called sodainely her Alynda vnto her, vnto whom she said. Alinda, faithfull and kind Alinda, in many experiments and great occasions I haue found thy loyaltie and trust such, that my studies are wholly how to requite thee, wherefore my trust (quothe the princesse) and therewithall embracing her in her armes of tender loue, bedewing her cheekes with teares, willed her to aske whatsoeuer was in her power to giue, & she should haue it. Alinda which saw her Lady in this humoor, thought she looked for no lesse then was then offered, rendering thanks for her gracious opinion, with pretty conceited parley put off their talke for that time, beseeching her to

make

make triall of those things which she had promised, wherunto the princesse agreed.

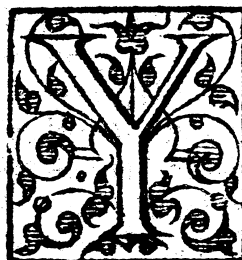
Alynda first opening her Trunke, suted her first in a doublet and hose: that done, arming her in all poynts, shee seemed seconds to none, but a knight of as great woozth as any. What seuerall speeches of commendations passed at her arming, I omitte, lette Ladies which for recreation sometimes amongst themselves vse like merriment, censure of the rest, onely I shall recount vnto you Alinda her forgetfulness, that hauing all other things beseeching what she had undertaken, wanted a shield with some deuise to present his imperiall maiestie, as the manner of men at armes is. This forgetfulness Alinda in her selfe greatly blamed, that prettily excused her selfe to auoyde blame, which the princesse with a pretie iest put off, saying both their heads together for performance of their want, and sitting their deuise answerable, first setting downe one thing, then another, all seeming good and verie effectuell, yet euerie senerall counsell surpassing other, they were doubtfull which to except, standing thus astoned, Alinda, which was euer at the dead list most sharpest witted, thus sayd. Madame, your grace hath many times carried good and gracious opinions of me, which I desire may euer be continued towards me, if now my credit may be such with you, referre this charge vnto me, and doubt not but it shall be effected to your content. Enough Alinda quoth the princesse, I take thy word, and on thy care relie, be it as thou wilt: so disarming her selfe, and attyning her in her owne attyre, accompanied with her ladies and Gentlewomen of honour, entred the presence, where shee found the Emperoz and those nobles of Genoway, vnto whom she was most heartily welcome: whom to their pleasant discourses we leaue, to tel you further of Alynda, and her carefull regard of her promise to the princesse.

S

CHAP.

## CHAP. XXXVIII.

How Alinda against the prefixed time of triumph, presented her Lady in the appoynted place of triumph, and what chanced.



**Y**ou have heard gentles in the former chapter of the pryncesse fortunate meeting with the nobles in presence of the Emperour, wherein was many discourses as occasion was offered, but among al, whether serious matters for the state, or idling prattle to beguile time, the remembrance of Philipppo, the knight so much of the Genoway nobles applauded and honoured was neuer forgotten, for whom they oftentimes with teares, distaining their tender cheekes, bewayled his want of company, and more greued for that they all doubted of his welfare, by reason of his breach of promise with them, not shewing himselfe to them, which came onely of purpose to meete him there. But to our matter.

As time now tyde stayeth not, so the long desired day is come, wherein those noble personages, whereof the numbers was great, that from al princes courts where they there assembled, must trie their forces, amongst which there wanted nothing, which to honour and armes appertained, each thing with such cost and diuertitie of deuises, as not onely the rarenesse of the shewes delighted, but the cost and exceeding richnesse was more admired, so that a generall plaudite was giuen the Emperour for his bounty, curtesie, & exceeding cost.

These things ordered, & all other needful matters befitting the time and the place. The pryncesse which were before appoynted to bee principall beholders of these pastimes, could not deale with what cunning deuise to bring her desires to effect,

effect, for which she grew so melancholike, that her nearest attendants durst not come neare her, fearing to offende her. These passions Alinda well noted, and sought many wayes in her subtle thiffling head, to disburthen her Lady of those great grieues: so long deuising, that she thought no way so sufficient as to cause her cunningly to counterfeite some distemperature of her bodie, and hereon resolving, without acquainting the Pryncesse therewith, she presently sent worde by the Pryncesse Squire to the Emperour, of the ill distemperature of the Pryncesse, whome she willed further to say as occasions were offered and questions demanded, of the manner of her agonie, to tell him, that about the middes of the night, all being in their dead sleep, suddenly the pryncesse started out of her bedde, running about the chamber like one lunatique, crying nothing but on her Lorde, Edward, Edward, of England, bitterly crying and exclaiming her Lord Edward was slaine, that she would come to auenge her on those miscreants that had murdered him.

With this message the gentleman being parted, hasteneth to the Court, and came so earlie, as none of the priue chamber were stirring, yet made such meanes as hee best coulde to deliuer his message, which no soner the Emperour heard, with the manner and straunge efficacy of her maladie, but nearly touched with the unhappie hearing thereof, hee called for his apparrell, and sending for his learnedest physicians, hee questioned of the occasion of the pryncesse greife and vnaccustomed agonyes, wherewith they were all astorted, yet taking aduise amongst themselves, diuersly censuring the occasion, they deliuered theyr opinions thus, that the pryncesse often meditating on her Lorde in his absence by some fearefull dreame, might bee in her sleape combyed, and doubted not after some quiet rest, but shee shoulde recouer her health againe. This comforted the Emperour, who more regarded her health then all the worlde, of such tender affection was his lone to the Pryncesse planted.

Now Alynda that had platted her deuiſe vnknoſune to the princeſſe, when ſhe had ſent her meſſenger away, came vnto the Princeſſe, and vnto her deliuered the diſcourſe of her intention, which ſomewhat aſtoniſhed the princeſſe, and put her to an nonplus, ſhat not knowing how a matter ſo beganne, ſhould be ſo cunningly effected, but ſome likelihoode of diſſembling would appeare, ſhe exclaimed on Alinda, rattling and railing her for her preſumption in attempting a matter ſo nearely touching her honour, without acquainting her therewith.

Alinda which hadde endured moze ſhowers and greater thunder cracks then the princeſſe could now rattle, quietly digeſted her extremitie of ſpeech, but no ſooner gan the winde to ouerblow, and the heate of her rage allayed: but Alynda which held her credite great, and carefully heeding her Ladies good, ſubmitting her ſelfe to the princeſſe, ſhe beſought her to regard all their goods, who had done this for her Ladſhips good, and to colour all which, and well effect her deſires, ſaine ſome long ſleep, ſhat if the Emperoz ſhuld ſend to ſee her, they which ſhuld come might haue no ſpeech with her. To this counſel of her eld ſurely by the princeſſe liſtned, & promiſed to perſorme what ſhe directed. Scantly had they queſtioned of effecting what they wiſhed, but one knocking eaſily at the chamber doze, brought word that the Emperoz with his phiſitians were come to viſit the princeſſe to whom Alinda returned this anſwere without aduiſement, that ſhe was lately fallen aſleepe, and beſought his highneſſe to pardon her a while, and forbear to comber her, whom they all hoped would be well amended by her reſt. The Emperoz whole carefull doubts of her health, might not ſo be ſatiſfied, would haue no deniall, but taking with him two phiſitions, entred her chamber, ſo eaſily as might not awake her: all which demeanour of theirs, the princeſſe liſtned heedfully vnto, and with great delight noted the lamentable diſcourſe of Alinda, relating the meane of her diſeaſe, which made the Princeſſe ſmile to her ſelfe, and aſſentines to frame her ſittes accordingly, to the great admiration of the Emperour and all the beholders, which were gathered there,

eſpecially the emperoz, ſo that the time of paſtime was ſo neer, which they might not with honoz recall. This diſpairing of the Princeſſes health, when the Emperoz had bin an eye-witneſſe of, what was repoꝛted, loath to awake her whom he thought ſlept ſoundly: as quietly without any noiſe making as he could, hee left her to her reſt, calling a counsell amongſt his nobilitie what was beſt to be done, either for pꝛoꝛoging & appointed paſtimes, or perſorming the, according as they were expected. On which they had with diuerſitie of counſaile, and ſundrie opinions debated, it was generally concluded, the triumphs to begin and hold, wheron a trumpet ſounded at the court gate, to giue euery combatant notice thereof, whereat the Princeſſe and Alynda ioyed much. The Emperoz, though his care was great, and ſorrow moze for the Princeſſes ſickneſſe, yet ſhewed himſelfe froliſhlike, the better to welcome the Princeſſes ſtrangers, who he wold not willingly diſcontent. But framing himſelf to mirth, as he beſt could, not without ſome touch of heauineſſe, he had then all moſt hartily welcome, paſſing the time of dinner which they made ſhorter, by reaſon of their great buſineſſe, whom to their preparation we leaue, to returne to the princeſſe and Alynda, who not idle, but buſily imployed about their affayres: after the Princeſſe by Alynda had giue ſtraight charge, that none ſhuld be ſo hardy to come neere her lodging, ſhe armed herſelfe, and at the time appointed was fully furniſhed as ſhe could deſire, Alynda being likewiſe ſuited, in rich attyre, beſitting moze the gallanteſt Courtier, then a Ladie. After ſhe had prepared all things, and their hozes orderly brought to the place by her appointed, the princeſſe attending to heare of the Emperors coming to the place of triumph, worde was brought Alynda, by her truſtie meſſenger, which was no ſooner heard, but Alynda mounting herſelfe on her hackney with a horne richly batwed: rickt about her necke, poſted towards the Emperoz. By which time the filters were ready to ioyne. But hearing Alinda wind her horne (as the vſuall maner of paſtimes is) they made ſtay of their courſes and diſcharged their ſtaues. The Emperoz and all the Nobles hearing this ſudden approach of a poſt, ſent pre,

sently a herauld to know the meaning, and what hee was that entred the place in such manner, by whom she was brought to the Emperours presence, where doing her dutie as shee that could well demean her selfe, she said. Wile not (magnificent and mightie Prince) at this suddaine comming of a stranger: the simple messenger of a knight aduenturous, who on some urgent occasions hath made longer stay, then either he desired, or his dutie would allow: yet not willing to lose this oportunitie of shewing his loue vnto your excellencie, is now, though too late, arrived in this citie, and by me craueth to bee accepted into this noble assembly, to shew his forces in honour of your highnesse, amongst those honoured Princes and estates. The Emperour, and all the assembly attentively listning to the messenger, commended highly the audacious demeanour of the supposed young man, thinking his maister to be no other but as the messenger reported, and loath to refuse his proffer, without enquire from whence he was, or of what degree, they willing with a generall voice sayde, he should be most hartlie welcome, causing a herauld to commaund the company to stay untill the knights comming. Alynda having made this intermedium to their purpose, made no tarrying, but with al possible haste returned where she left the Princesse, who being alreadie mounted, attending her Alynda, who no sooner had the Emperours answer, but setting forwards, guided by her true Lie Page Alynda, they arrived shortly at the place of triumph, into which entring, beewing her selfe vnto her horse necke, vnto those she first met, she passed her horse by y<sup>e</sup> tilt, with such a countenance, and maiestical grace, that euery one admired, both her person, and good demeanour, euery one censuring of her, yet none knowing what he should becomming neer vnto the place where the Emperour was, in like maner with thre lowly and courtlike courtesses, shee saluted him: where staying, Alynda deliuered her shield, vnto his princely hands wheron was portrayed her own picture armed, holding in chains thre princes, which subiected themselves to her, swearing their loyalty vnto her: her weapons, kept faith with thy friends. The herauld

deliuered, among all the rest many times reuiued, as this, & spem... which he much admired, craning of those... mions of the same, & desirous to knowe (if they could) what knight was: The knights having al their companies the stranger knight, desiring him to make choise of his run against, desiring the king of heralds which there waited, to read the names of the the Wilsters vnto him, which he had in a Catalogue. The prince his humbly thanking the for their loue and fauour, calling Alynda vnto her, commanded her to go the Emperour, and to craue at his hands, to trie against all comers, his strength, for that by oath he was so enioyned, by the Ladie he most honourd, beseeching the princes and royall companies not to take in any all part this request of his, which was ready to kill the same man as a humbled one. The Emperour which saw his honour to be in arms, was loath to hazarde him to any great danger, but by his towne licence, to graunt that he might after report knowing the toyle, and perill incedent to such assays: yet considering his vow made, as his messenger deliuered, and not heeding what sufficiency the knight found in himself, craued him in his behalfe, the company would accept him, wher-on they stood not long, put graunted: at which the Princesse was most ioyfull: so preparing her selfe, with such courage shee discharged on the Boionian Prince that first mette her, as shee bare him violently to the ground, with such force, that had not helpe bene neare, he had bene spoyle of his limmes, so that wearied with this first bad fortune, and dishonour in the action, hee gaue ouer that dayes tryumph, in whose place mette her Armes of Lusran, a noble Duke, which she likewise foyle: at which such admiration growe, that there was no speech, but of the white knight, so called by his armes, being no other wise knowne. Let it suffice, the honour of the day by generall consent was given vnto her, whome the Emperour and all the rest, desired to knowe, invited her to lodge within his Court, which shee humbly desired, returning many great thanks

of the  
ing her selfe in such sort, as she  
ed to recount his courtesies, be  
and gallant courage of him selfe in armes.  
mured by the Emperour to depart, wee leaue the  
her pleasure, ioying in her good fortunes, and se  
aling her selfe, and the Emperour to his imaginations  
anger knights, what sundry speeches at supper passed  
in court, of her honours gained, I omit, let it suffice all persons,  
as well that receyued foyle, as others; gaue the honour and  
commendations to her. What other occasions happened her,  
with the Emperours knowledge of this feigned knight, I omit:  
for that the Historie leaues them so. The third and last part  
shall shew Prince Edward his successe in all his troubles hap  
pening in his traualles: the meeting of the Princesse with her  
noble husband, and honours of the two yong Lords, Narcel  
lion, and Constantine, with their conquest: which shall bring  
the more delight, if so thou accept this. Till when, and  
euer, I craue your pardons and good opinions, to  
be censured of this, which shall encourage  
me to finish the rest, and cuer be at  
your deuotion.

FINIS.